

Egyptian minister visits S. Arabia

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa flew unexpectedly to Saudi Arabia Wednesday for talks expected to focus on a planned Arab summit in Kuwait. Foreign Ministry sources said Mr. Musa made no announcement before leaving, but the sources said his talks were related to a meeting next week in Kuwait between the foreign ministers of Syria, Egypt and six Gulf states. The ministers were originally due to meet in Kuwait Tuesday to consider plans for a joint peacekeeping force. The talks were postponed until next Monday. The eight countries agreed in Damascus in March to form an Arab force using mainly Egyptian and Syrian troops to protect the region, in return for aid to Cairo and Damascus. But differences have emerged over the size, cost and composition of the force. Diplomats in Kuwait said the countries at one stage agreed on a 26,000-strong force, with Cairo and Damascus contributing 3,000 men each. Military experts in Cairo said Egypt wanted a larger role.

Jordan Times

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Arafat: U.S. too soft on Israel

TUNIS (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, warning of a fresh explosion in the Middle East, has blamed the United States for not being tough enough on Israel, the Palestinian news agency Wafa said Wednesday. "By pursuing its support of the Israeli occupation and its immigration, colonisation and repression policies... the United States is pushing the region towards a new explosion," Mr. Arafat said in a message marking the 44th month of the Palestinian uprising. Mr. Arafat said Washington's efforts to convene peace talks "have reached a dead end because of Israeli intransigence, and the Israeli occupiers' insolent defiance of international law in continuing their expansionist plans and war of extermination against our people." Mr. Arafat said PLO guerrillas would not withdraw from Palestinian refugee camps in South Lebanon close to Israel's self-declared "security zone," and leave them "exposed to threats and new massacres" like those at Sabra and Shatila in 1982. (See story below).

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Iraq replaces heads of banks

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has replaced the governor of its central bank and the heads of its two other banks, the weekly magazine Al-Farabi reported Wednesday. Central Bank Governor Saadun Abdul Razzaq Khubab had been replaced by Aziz Ja'afar Abtan and Saadun Abdul Razzaq Khubab had replaced Abdul Hamid Al-Amin as director of the Rasheed Bank, it added. The magazine gave no reason for the move. Both the Rafidain and Rasheed banks are state-run. The Iraqi government has expressed a desire to allow private banks but has not yet taken steps to implement the idea.

Arabs deported by Kuwait arrive in Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Nearly 400 Arabs deported by Kuwait arrived in Iraq's southern city of Basra Wednesday and were handed over to representatives from the Iraqi Red Crescent and the Red Cross, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported. INA said the group consisted of 380 Arabs of different nationalities. It quoted three Jordanians, a Palestinian and a Somali as saying they had not violated Kuwaiti laws but "Kuwaiti security officials had tortured them and fired them from their jobs under the justification of collaboration with Iraq." The agency quoted them as saying they were beaten up and deprived of their savings, belongings and official documents (see page 2 for earlier story).

Arab-Americans win abuse case

NEW YORK (R) — Three Arab-Americans subjected to years of ethnic abuse from their employer at a Manhattan condominium have been each awarded \$10,000 by the city commission on human rights. Abdalla Abdalkw, Ibrahim Khemis and Ezzat Armanious — all Egyptian-Americans and employees at the luxury Museum Towers near Fifth Avenue in Midtown — won the award against the building management, Douglas Elliman Gibbons and Ives. "The regular humiliation suffered by these Arab-Americans was despicable and should be denounced," said Commissioner Dennis Delbon in announcing the awards.

Poll shows French right well ahead of Socialists

PARIS (R) — France's ruling Socialist Party, which has tumbled in the polls over a rash of violence in immigrant ghettos, would lose to the conservatives if general elections were held now, according to an opinion poll. The survey, published Wednesday by the daily newspaper Le Figaro, showed the combined right-wing parties winning more than 52 per cent of the vote, with the Socialists of French President Francois Mitterrand getting just 26 per cent and the Communists eight per cent. Even without the votes of the far-right National Front, the conservative opposition RPR and UDF parties would take 38 per cent of the vote, the poll showed. The result confirms other opinion surveys in the past two months.

French court reverses expulsion

PARIS (AP) — A special court, overruling the government, said Wednesday there were no legitimate grounds for the controversial expulsion last month of a Moroccan dissident sent to Gabon. The court ruling means that Abdoumoumen Diouri, expelled June 20 under an emergency procedure, could return to France. Mr. Diouri was expelled months before a scathing book on his Moroccan homeland, a former French colony, was to be published. Human rights groups in France were outraged. Interior Minister Philippe Marchand, who ordered the expulsion, had asserted that Mr. Diouri maintained contacts with Iraqi officials, Libyan and other Middle East intelligence services, and Palestinian groups.

U.S. insists Iraq hiding more data on nuclear plans

Combined agency dispatches

THE UNITED STATES is insisting that Iraq is still concealing information about its nuclear programme despite a detailed new accounting given under international pressure.

But Defence Department officials say they believe Baghdad is still missing components needed to produce a nuclear weapon.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler told reporters the 29-page letter given by Iraq Monday to the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) contained "significant omissions and discrepancies."

But she refused to provide details or to confirm a New York Times story reporting that the Bush administration believes Iraq has secretly enriched uranium into weapons-grade quality to build at least one nuclear device.

At the Pentagon, however, spokesman Pete Williams said the Iraqis were getting closer to producing a nuclear weapon but "are missing pieces right now that they don't have and cannot get without outside (Western) help."

"I think we have a good assessment of what is missing," he added without elaboration.

Iraq has shown U.N. nuclear inspectors "crucial elements" of a uranium enrichment programme that could have been used to manufacture a nuclear bomb, a U.N. official said in Baghdad.

Dimitri Periccos, chief inspector of the U.N. team, said the

Iraqis had been more open than ever before in trips made to several sites Monday and Tuesday, in stark contrast to the alleged concealment that led to threats of an allied military strike last week.

"Things are going well. They are opening up. We are finding things according to the declaration" made by the Iraqis, Mr. Periccos said.

"Whatever you're asking for, they're producing as of yesterday," he said in an interview late Tuesday at his Baghdad hotel.

The expanded list of equipment and sites provided by the Iraqis Monday was a de facto admission that they had not been truthful when they first disclosed on April 27 that they had 24 sites, 18 of which had been destroyed or heavily damaged in the Gulf war.

Iraq said it withheld information about its efforts to enrich uranium and destroyed some equipment for fear of a U.S. attack.

"Iraq had some good reasons connected with its national security which made it refrain from divulging some of the stages of this (peaceful nuclear) programme," said Iraqi Foreign Minister Ahmad Hussein in a letter to the U.N. secretary-general and U.N. nuclear energy officials Monday.

"Among these reasons... are the fear of exaggeration, abuse and aggression," he wrote.

Mr. Hussein recounted that

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EC: Israel will not get trade benefits without peace

TEL AVIV (R) — The European Community (EC) will deny Israel preferential trade status after 1992 unless it makes peace with its Arab neighbours and the Palestinians, a visiting EC official said Wednesday.

"Israel would have the possibility of a substantial rapprochement with the community on a line similar or identical to what we are discussing with EFTA countries," said Marc Pierini, economic adviser to European Commissioner for Mediterranean Policy Abel Matutes.

"This could only come through when the peace has been totally established with Arabs and Palestinians," Mr. Pierini told reporters.

He was speaking after a meeting between Foreign Minister David Levy and Mr. Matutes at which the two agreed the EC would appoint a representative to supervise aid projects for Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Israel is negotiating with the community over its trade status when EC countries from a single market after 1992. Israel hopes to

receive benefits similar to non-EC European countries with European Free Trade Association (EFTA) status.

One third of Israeli exports go to EC countries and another third to the United States with which Israel has a free trade agreement. Israel now enjoys minimal tariffs on its exports to EC countries and has cooperation agreements in scientific, industrial and technological fields.

Relations with the EC, strained over Israel's treatment of Palestinians during the 43-month-old uprising, improved after Israel failed to respond to Iraqi missile attacks during the Gulf war.

Israel now envisages a limited EC role at any U.S.-and Soviet-sponsored Middle East peace conference.

Mr. Matutes and Mr. Levy agreed the EC representative would have diplomatic status and could move freely in the occupied territories. He would live initially in Brussels and it was not clear if he would later move to Israel or

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Slovenia votes to accept peace plan

LJUBLJANA, Yugoslavia (R) — The parliament of the breakaway republic of Slovenia voted Wednesday to accept a peace plan intended to avert civil war in Yugoslavia.

Deputies voted overwhelmingly to adopt the plan, removing the main obstacle to a blueprint for peace agreed by federal Yugoslav leaders, three European Community (EC) foreign ministers and leaders of the feuding republics Sunday.

Some deputies had earlier criticised the plan, which forces Slovenia to cede overall control of its international border checkpoints to federal authorities, saying it amounted to too big a compromise in the republic's drive for independence.

Deputies endorsed the plan, worked out on the Adriatic island of Brioni, by 189 to 11 with seven abstentions.

France Bucar, president of the parliament and originally a critic of the plan, said: "The Slovenian parliament accepts in its entirety

the joint declaration with both annexes."

Deputies made clear acceptance of the Brioni plan did not alter their commitment to independence proclaimed June 25.

Mr. Bucar said before the vote: "We in no way give up our sovereignty by adopting this declaration, let me say this loudly and clearly."

Federal army units, who stormed through the republic in a blitz after the independence declaration, are supposed to have withdrawn to barracks and Slovenian independence fighters to their homes under the EC-brokered plan.

It also calls for talks to open by the end of this month on the future of the turbulent 72-year-old Balkan federation.

Multi-ethnic Yugoslavia has been pushed to the brink of civil war by Slovenian and Croatian independence moves and sharpening ethnic tensions.

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King reviews Arab, int'l issues at GHQ

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Wednesday visited the Army Headquarters, where he was received by Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb, senior assistants, the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force and the inspector general of the Armed Forces.

King Hussein discussed

with Gen. Abu Taleb issues of concern to the Armed Forces.

King Hussein also met with senior army officers and thanked them for the efforts they exert to develop the efficiency of their formations.

The King stressed the importance of professionalism and the need to make use of past experiences and to apply scientific methods in developing the Armed Forces.

The King lauded the great role played by the Armed Forces, "which embodies the ambitions and aspirations of the (Arab) Nation."

This army, King Hussein said, "will remain an army for all the Arabs and its motto will always be a dear one."

King Hussein reviewed in the meeting the current situation in both the Arab and international arenas and the

role Jordan is playing in backing the Arab causes and in supporting principles which call for solving all the region's problems through just and peaceful means.

At the end of the meeting, King Hussein stressed the importance of cooperation and cohesion among the members of the Jordanian family and adherence to the principles of democracy and the spirit of the National Charter.

Iraq reports 49 new cholera cases

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq Wednesday reported 49 new cholera cases this month, bringing the total of known cases to 324.

A health official quoted by the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said 33 of the new cases were reported in Diyala province northeast of Baghdad. It said there were six in the capital.

The official did not refer to any fatalities.

Meanwhile Iraqi authorities have given a special U.N. envoy the go-ahead to visit the south where tens of thousands of Shiite Muslims reportedly are biding after a failed rebellion against the government.

Prince Sadruddin Agha Khan, who is overseeing U.N. humanitarian efforts in the Gulf, is expected to travel to Nassariya on Thursday, according to a U.N. official who declined to be identified.

The go-ahead to the politically sensitive mission came after more than three hours of talks with Foreign Minister Ahmad Hussein and an evening meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz.

INA quoted Mr. Aziz as expressing "Iraq's full readiness to cooperate with the efforts of the United Nations and its specialised agencies regarding humanitarian aid."

He reiterated Baghdad's call for lifting sanctions imposed after the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, according to INA.

The U.N. official said Iraqi authorities attributed the delay in granting approval to the trip to technical difficulties.

Prince Sadruddin, who arrived Monday, was originally expected to travel to the south Wednesday. U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar last week ordered Prince Sadruddin to visit the marshes following a U.N. report about high-levels of Iraqi military activity in the region and increasing risks of starvation and epidemics among the Shiites.

Iran claimed last month that Iraqi forces were preparing to massacre the Shiites. Iraq denied the charges.

A U.N. estimate said between 30,000 and 100,000 Shiites may be hiding in the marshlands near the Iranian border. However, a relief worker familiar with the area Tuesday voiced scepticism at the figures.

He said many Shiite guerrillas were thought to be using the marshes as a base, but it was unlikely that large numbers of civilians were displaced in the area.

Mitterrand visits Tunisia today

TUNIS (R) — Tunisians, who were angry with the West during the Gulf crisis, are surprised and flattered that French President Francois Mitterrand has chosen their country for his first visit to the Arab World since the Gulf war.

The government newspaper La Presse described Mr. Mitterrand's brief visit Thursday as highly symbolic and "a friendly and considerate gesture." President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali "attaches great importance to the exchange of views he will have because of the special relations between the two heads of state and countries," Presidential Spokesman Abdul Wahab Abdullah told Reuters.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday meets with U.N. special envoy Edouard Brunner (centre)

Brunner: Jordan's stand on peace efforts constructive, consistent

U.N. mission complementary to U.S. efforts

By Serene Halasa

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — United Nations special envoy Edouard Brunner left Jordan Tuesday after high-level talks on Middle East peace-making, but he made it clear that his mission was complementary in nature to the ongoing American-led efforts to resolve the region's conflicts and that the world body was not pursuing an independent approach.

"We remain at the disposal of all parties involved in the peace process," said Mr. Brunner, who is on a five-country swing through the Middle East.

"This mission will not interfere with the peace mission of (U.S. Secretary of State James) Baker, which is already under way, alive and ongoing... and accepted by all as a genuine, serious effort," Mr. Brunner told the Jordan Times shortly before a meeting with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Taher Masi and Foreign Minister Abdullah Ensur held talks with the U.N.

envoy Tuesday.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the Crown Prince and Mr. Brunner discussed the situation in the Middle East and that the Crown Prince briefed the U.N. envoy on Jordan's stand on Middle East peace efforts and reviewed with him the deteriorating situation in the Israeli-occupied territories.

(The Crown Prince and Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath returned to Amman from Britain late Tuesday after attending the graduation of their daughter, Her Royal Highness Princess Rahma, from Cambridge University.)

During his stay in Britain, the Crown Prince met with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, Middle East peace efforts were believed to have been the focus of his talks with Mr. Hurd.)

In his comments to the Jordan Times Wednesday, Mr. Brunner said that although the presence of the United Nations in any peace process is opposed by some parties, mainly Israel, the world organisation is keeping its options open and will "respond to an invitation" if it is requested to do so.

Mr. Brunner rejected as baseless Israeli contentions that the U.N. was biased against the Jewish state. "I don't know in what way we are biased," he said. "The (very) resolution that practically created the state of Israel was made by the U.N.," he pointed out.

"Of course," he added, "we are biased towards peace... and we are fair and just with every party."

Mr. Brunner adopted a non-committal position on a comment by World Jewish Congress (WJC) leader Edgar Bronfman that Israel might be willing to drop its opposition to any U.N. role in the peace process if the world body repealed a 1975 resolution which equates Zionism with racism.

"All resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council are taken by a majority of countries," he said. "If they want to repeal this resolution, they can do it."

Mr. Brunner, the first U.N. envoy to the Middle East in 19 years, has come under heavy attack in the local press for what

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Palestinians to donate their heavy arms to Lebanese army

TYRE, Lebanon (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which lost guerrilla bases in battles last week near the southern port of Sidon, told the Lebanese government Wednesday it was donating the rest of its heavy weapons to the Lebanese army.

Lebanese troops have already moved south from Sidon to encircle three Palestinian camps near Tyre where PLO guerrillas are preparing to hand the weapons over.

Mohsen Ibrahim, a Lebanese Communist Party leader mediating between the PLO and the Beirut government, met Lebanese Prime Minister Omar Karame Wednesday to give him a message from PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"I informed the Lebanese officials of Yasser Arafat's willingness to give the (Palestinian heavy) weapons as a gift to the army," Mr. Ibrahim told reporters after the meeting.

Mr. Ibrahim met Mr. Arafat in Tunis last week and went with him to Algeria, where the PLO leader asked President Chadli

Benjedid to mediate an end to the fighting around Sidon.

Mr. Ibrahim said the message showed the PLO had not planned the fighting and PLO leaders looked forward to "close and brotherly" relations with the army.

In the fighting last week the army, pressing to bring South Lebanon under state authority, dislodged PLO guerrillas from their last bases facing Israeli troops and their local allies.

The estimated 6,000 PLO guerrillas, pushed back into two refugee camps near Sidon, handed their heavy weapons to the army for safekeeping after four days of fighting.

On Wednesday hundreds of troops, backed by tanks, moved south from Sidon and deployed around the three Palestinian refugee camps near Tyre, 75 kilometres south of Beirut.

Dozens of soldiers took up positions around the refugee camps of Bus, north of Tyre, Burj Al Shamali to the east and Rashidiyah to the south, where hundreds of guerrillas are based.

It was reported earlier that the

disarmed Palestinian guerrillas were to be evacuated by mid-July from South Lebanon, effectively dismantling the PLO's last power base within striking distance of Israel.

Only a few hundred of the 5,000 hardcore fighters currently in the 'Ain Al Hilweh and Mich Mieh refugee camps will remain in Lebanon, the reports said.

Palestinian sources reiterated Wednesday PLO leaders were thinking of evacuating some guerrillas from Lebanon but Mr. Arafat was quoted in Tunis as saying his men would not withdraw from the camps.

Mr. Arafat said any pullout would leave the camps, close to Israel's self-declared "security zone," vulnerable to massacres like those at the Beirut camps of Sabra and Shatila in 1982.

After tightening its grip on the south, the government of President Elias Hrawi hopes Washington would press Israel to withdraw from the 15-kilometre deep "security zone" and the town of Jezzine, 20 kilometres east of Sidon.

Prince Talal weds

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohammad Wednesday wedded Ghaidaa Hani Salam in a ceremony held in the presence of His Majesty King Hussein and other members of the Royal family.

The ceremony at Zahran Palace was also attended by Prime Minister Taher Masi, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Chief Islamic Justice Mohammad Mheilan and Hani Mohammad Salah Salam, the bride's father, as well as other members of the Salam family.

Israel choking Palestinian building

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — As Israel rushes to settle more Jews in the occupied West Bank, a new study concludes that the Jewish state has been demolishing more Palestinian houses than it allows Palestinians to build.

"About 1,500 houses were demolished for 'planning' reasons by the Israelis in the four years 1986-89," said a report by British town planner Anthony Coon, released Wednesday.

"This is somewhat more than the number of houses for which the Israelis issued permits during this period," it said.

"In absolute terms, the Israelis appear to be issuing six times as many building permits for Jewish development as they are issuing to Palestinians," the report added.

Mr. Coon's findings, the product of two years of research for the Palestinian human rights group Al Haq, showed a systematic policy of restricting Palestinian building in the villages inhabited by some 700,000 of the West Bank's one million people.

The army controls permits in these areas. In contrast, Palestinian local councils in municipalities or United Nations authorities administering refugee camps gave approval to build about 95 per cent of the time, he said.

"The purpose... objective of Israeli planning policy in the West Bank with regard to Palestinians is to confine Palestinian development to as small an area as possible... and not to allow opportunities for expansion," Mr. Coon told a news conference.

"There is a direct contrast between the planning for Jews in the West Bank and the planning for Palestinians in the West Bank," he said.

Selective policy

Mr. Coon accused the Israeli authorities of selectively using old laws and documents from both the Jordanian and British periods of rule to block almost all legal construction.

Mr. Coon, deputy director of the Centre for Planning at Strathclyde University in Scotland, said the military authorities have been issuing about 350 building permits per year — a tenth of the number needed for the current population growth, without tackling the backlog.

Because of the cost and slight chances for success, most Palestinians do not even bother to apply for permits. Mr. Coon estimated up to 15,000 houses have been built in recent years without permits.

Mr. Coon contrasted the treatment of Palestinians to the ease with which Israeli settlements in the same area approved and expanded.

Some 100,000 Jews now live in the West Bank, plus another 120,000 in Arab Jerusalem, which Israel has "annexed." Under the current government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir the level of construction has risen dramatically.

Jews have been settled, Mr. Coon said, mainly on land that Israel declared "state land" after occupying the area in the 1967 war.

5 major arms sellers approve of Mideast mass destruction free zone

PARIS (USIA) — The five permanent representatives to the United Nations Security Council — the United States, the United Kingdom, China, France, and the Soviet Union — "strongly supported the objective of establishing a weapons of mass destruction-free zone in the Middle East."

In a statement released at the conclusion Tuesday of a two-day meeting here on arms transfers and non-proliferation, representatives of the five states said that establishing such a zone would freeze and ultimately eliminate ground to ground missiles in the region; require the nations to submit their nuclear activities to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards; ban the importation and production of nuclear weapons usable materials; and commit the nations in the region to become party to the Chemical Weapons Convention upon its conclusion in 1992.

The five also took a step toward reducing the proliferation of highly potent weapons throughout the world, agreeing not to transfer conventional weapons "in circumstances which would undermine stability" and to maintain "stringent" controls on weapons of mass destruction.

The following is the official text of a common statement issued following the meeting of the five:

1. Representatives of the United States of America, the People's Republic of China, France, the United Kingdom, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, met in Paris on the 8th and 9th of July to review issues related to conventional arms trans-

fers and to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

They noted with concern the dangers associated with the excessive buildup of military capabilities, and confirmed they would not transfer conventional weapons in circumstances which would undermine stability. They also noted the threats to peace and stability posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons, chemical and biological weapons, and missiles, and undertook to seek effective measures of non-proliferation and arms control in a fair, reasonable, comprehensive and balanced manner on a global as well as on a regional basis.

2. They had a thorough and positive exchange of views on the basis of the arms control initiatives presented in particular by President Bush, President Mitterrand, Prime Minister Major and on other initiatives which address these problems globally and as a matter of urgency in the Middle East. They also agreed to support continued work in the United Nations on arms transfers register to be established under the aegis of the U.N. Secretary General, on a non-discriminatory basis, as a step towards increased transparency on arms transfers and in general in military matters.

They stressed that the ultimate response to the threat of proliferation is verifiable arms control and disarmament agreements amongst the parties concerned. They expressed strong support for full implementation of existing arms control regimes. For their part, they will contribute to this objective by developing and maintaining stringent national

and, as far as possible, harmonized controls to ensure that weapons of mass destruction-related equipments and materials are transferred for permitted purposes only and are not diverted.

They also strongly supported the objective of establishing a weapons of mass destruction-free zone in the Middle East. They expressed their view that critical steps towards this goal include full implementation of UNSC Resolution 687 and adoption by countries in the region of a comprehensive programme of arms control for the region, including:

— a freeze and ultimate elimination of ground-to-ground missiles in the region;

— submission by all nations in the region of all of their nuclear activities to IAEA safeguards;

— a ban on the importation and production of nuclear weapons usable materials;

— agreement by all states in the region undertake to becoming parties to the CW Convention as soon as it is concluded in 1992.

3. They acknowledged that Article 51 of the U.N. Charter guarantees every state the right of self-defence. That right implies that states have also the right to acquire means with which to defend themselves. In this respect, the transfer of conventional weapons, conducted in a responsible manner, should contribute to the ability of states to meet their legitimate defense, security and national sovereignty requirements and to participate effectively in collective measures requested by the United Nations for the purpose of maintaining or restoring international peace and

security.

They recognised that indiscriminate transfers of military weapons and technology contribute to regional instability. They are fully conscious of the special responsibilities that are incumbent upon them to ensure that such risks be avoided, and of the special role they have to play in promoting greater responsibility, confidence and transparency in this field. They also recognise that a long term solution to this problem should be found in close consultation with recipient countries.

4. They expressed the intention that:

— When considering under their national control procedures conventional weapons transfers, they will observe rules of restraint. They will develop agreed guidelines on this basis;

— taking into account the special situation of the Middle East as a primary area of tension, they will develop modalities of consultation and of information exchange concerning arms transfers to this region as a matter of priority;

— a group of experts will meet in September with a view to reaching agreement on this approach;

— another plenary meeting will be held in October in London;

— further meetings will be held periodically to review these issues.

5. They expressed the conviction that this process of continuing cooperation will contribute to a worldwide climate of vigilance in this field which other countries will share.

U.S. satellite saw Iraqis burying nuclear gear

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S. spy satellite photographed Iraqi forces burying equipment used to enrich uranium at a secret military base near Baghdad last week, the Washington Times reported Wednesday.

Unidentified U.S. officials with access to intelligence reports disclosed the sighting to the newspaper and said the spy photographs showed Iraqis burying several large magnetic discs.

The discs were thought to be parts from calutrons, the World War II-era nuclear fuel separator that Iraq could use to produce nuclear weapons.

The discs, 3.6 metres to 4.5 metres in diameter, were thought to be from machines U.N. inspectors were prevented from investigating at an Iraqi military base June 26. They were buried at a Republican Guard garrison near Baghdad.

"They have grossly underestimated our ability to keep tabs on them," an official told the newspaper.

Another official said Iraq had engaged in "massive deception" to hide its chemical, biological and nuclear weapons and send missiles, the newspaper said.

U.S. officials said Tuesday they believed Iraq was still concealing information about its nuclear programme despite a detailed new accounting provided under international pressure.

But U.S. Defence Department officials said they believed Baghdad was still missing crucial components needed to produce a nuclear weapon.

Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler told reporters the 29-page letter given by Iraq Monday to the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) contained significant omissions and discrepancies.

But she refused to provide details or to confirm a New York Times story reporting that the U.S. administration believed Iraq had secretly enriched uranium into weapons-grade quality to build at least one nuclear device.

In its letter, Iraq acknowledged it had run three clandestine programmes designed to produce enriched uranium. It was forced to make the disclosure to comply with a U.N. resolution ending the Gulf war that requires destruction of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Bush denounces 'revisionists'

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush Tuesday expressed irritation at critics who charge that the Gulf war victory was hollow since Iraqi President Saddam Hussein remains in power and Kuwait is still run by a non-democratic government.

At the end of a speech to defence lobbyists, Mr. Bush criticised what he said were attempts to revise original objectives of the war to include such goals as swiftly bringing democratic rule to the emirate.

"I have never been more convinced that what we did was worthwhile. Some are trying to redefine what the war was about. Was it instant democracy in Kuwait? Was it the total demise of Saddam Hussein? It wasn't these," Mr. Bush said.

"In my view... we did something noble. We kicked aggression right out of Kuwait. We said to the aggressors that the international community and international law won't stand for this kind of behaviour in the future," he said.

Some political commentators have complained that the United States, after the assistance it gave Kuwait, should be able to persuade Kuwait's emir to move towards democracy at a much faster pace.

The emir has promised democratic elections for October 1992. Critics have also faulted Mr.

Bush for coming to the aid of the displaced Kurdish refugees too late. They add that President Saddam remains in power despite the massive bombing campaign and destruction of much of Iraq's army.

The second-guessing has come at the end of an extended period of national self-adulation, spurred on by Mr. Bush, over American successes in the Gulf.

"One of the reasons we were successful in proving to the world that aggression would not stand, was because of the men and women of the armed forces, and because we had the technology to make our words of warning count," the president said.

Bush himself has complained about President Saddam still being in power but says it was not a goal of the Gulf war to topple the Iraqi leader, that it is up to the Iraqi people to do that.

But the fact that he raised the issue without prodding suggested a certain sensitivity to the subject, particularly at a time when Iraq has disclosed details of an extensive nuclear programme that apparently escaped allied bombing runs.

The United States has not ruled out a military strike against Iraqi nuclear sites unless Iraq allows international inspections of them with the aim of dismantling Iraq's ability to make a nuclear bomb.

Bush hopes visit to Greece, Turkey can ease tensions

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush said in an interview made public Tuesday that he hopes his visit to Greece and Turkey later this month will serve as a catalyst to ease tensions between the two U.S. NATO allies and settle their dispute over Cyprus.

But the president, in an interview with foreign journalists, took care not to raise expectations. He dampened speculation about whether a reconciliation or a formal Greek-Turkey non-aggression pact could result from his visit to those regions from July 18 through 21.

Mr. Bush said it was "a little bit arrogant to suggest I can fly to these two countries and out of that would result this solution. But if in any way the United States can be a catalyst for resolution of historic differences, so much the better."

Turkey has occupied the north-

ern third of Cyprus since it deposed troops there in 1974 after a coup in Nicosia engineered by the military junta then ruling Greece. More than two-thirds of Cypriots are Greek.

"Listen, if our visit could result in something like that (a reconciliation or pact) I would rejoice because I'd like to see these two countries, with whom we have extraordinarily friendly relationships, work out their difficulties," Mr. Bush said.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has been trying for years to reunite the divided island under a federal system of government.

Washington strongly supports Mr. Perez de Cuellar's initiative for talks on Cyprus and we don't go there (to the region) with some bold new plan that we would throw before" Greek, Turkish and Cypriot leaders, Mr. Bush said.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Poland turns to Iran for exports

WARSAW (R) — Poland wants to increase trade with Iran, Polish foreign ministry spokesman said Tuesday. Spokesman Dziemidowicz said Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Ki, who visited Iran last week, put forward 800 offers of industry to the Iranian officials. "We don't hide that we promote those companies which are out of work because of the collapse of trade with the Soviet Union," Mr. Dziemidowicz said. He said Iran wanted Poland's help in extending its industry, construction and sugar processing but he left details. Poland plans to buy up to three million tonnes of Iranian gas this year — about 20 per cent of its total oil which it has already imported 700,000 tonnes. It is also Iran's gas, Mr. Dziemidowicz said. Polish officials, however, in exports to the Soviet Union for the cons Poland's industrial output. Production fell 8.5 per cent six months of this year after plunging 24 per cent in 1991.

Algerian militants stop Islamic conference

ALGIERS (R) — Nearly 100 supporters of two arrested opposition leaders Tuesday stopped a planned news conference for Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) members, underlining the movement. Shouting "traitors, traitors, how much (the authorities) pay you," the youths forced four members of the FIS policy-making body to abandon their meeting. The FIS, led by Said Guechi, seen as a moderate in the FIS who clashed with security forces during weeks of unrest in the city. Supporters of FIS leaders, Abassi Madani and Ali Guechi, charged with forming and leading an armed conspiracy to overthrow the government, were arrested last week. The FIS, which has been banned, is seen as a moderate in the FIS who clashed with security forces during weeks of unrest in the city. Supporters of FIS leaders, Abassi Madani and Ali Guechi, charged with forming and leading an armed conspiracy to overthrow the government, were arrested last week. 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Senate pledges support of Cabinet

AMMAN (Petra) — During a Senate session Wednesday Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi pledged full backing to the government and cooperation in the implementation of the various topics on the agenda of the extraordinary session.

At the start of the session, which was attended by Prime Minister Taher Masri and Cabinet members, the House's secretary general read out the Royal Decree announcing the opening of Parliament's extraordinary session as of July 8, 1991, in order to debate and endorse 90 topics on the agenda.

Among the topics there is the government's policy statement and a number of laws together with a report by the head of the Audit Bureau, the water strategy for Jordan and investigations concerning financial and administrative corruption in government offices.

After the statement, Mr. Lawzi expressed hope that the government of Mr. Masri would exert all efforts to carry out the agenda and pledged full cooperation from the Senate members in this regard.



Ahmad Al Lawzi

regard.

"The government will find the Senate fully cooperative in order to serve the country and the King," Mr. Lawzi said. Later, the Senate announced its acceptance of Mr. Salem Masaadeh and Mr. Ibrahim Izzeddin as members of the House's foreign affairs and legal committees, respectively.

The House also referred several draft laws and matters to the concerned committees.

Al Al Bayt head says peace without justice will not last

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al Al Bayt Foundation) Nasereddin Al Assad Tuesday said that the "current circumstances and challenges facing this region will not make us lose hope and optimism" and that a just and durable peace would prevail in this region.

Addressing a symposium entitled "Development Within an Islamic Perspective," Dr. Assad said that there had been much talk about peace but little about justice. He said that much of the talk about peace was "void of any real content because of the double standards and the imbalanced talk about peace and justice."

"The reason for the short periods of peace and lack of stability in the world, particularly in the Middle East, is attributable to the fact that the much talked-about peace is void of justice and did not take into account the natural rights of the people," Dr. Assad said.

He said that development needed circumstances, psychological and social conditions favourable for it to thrive. Dr. Assad added that without real and just peace, there would be no development. Moreover, Dr. Assad said, there will be no development as long as regional divisions remain because they "waste peoples' resources and prevent them from achieving economic and human integration."

Dr. Assad touched upon effects of the foreign debt on regional development, saying "there will be no development as

long as the peoples' capacities are tied and their resources depleted as a result of the foreign debt servicing."

Dr. Assad said that the gap between the industrialised and Third World countries or between the countries of the north and the countries of the south had widened.

He added that there was no balance in the distribution of world wealth as the developing world, which has 80 per cent of the total world population, accounts for 20 per cent of its wealth. While the industrialised world, with 20 per cent of the world population, gets 80 per cent of its wealth.

"Following the independence of the countries of the south, the number of people falling under the poverty line in the developing world has increased and consequently the gap between the rich and the poor has expanded," Dr. Assad said.

Also addressing the symposium was Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Tuweijri, assistant director general of the Islamic Organisation for Education, Science and Culture, who said that human development was the core and the starting point for any movement. He called for a nation-based "development with a human face."

Dr. Tuweijri pointed out that dealing with development from an Islamic perspective warranted a comprehensive vision of human resources, the world, life and the community.

He said that the current status of the Islamic countries was gov-



Nasereddin Al Assad

erned by a number of economic and social factors which have led to the emergence of problems fostering backwardness and failure. "These same problems face the region's peoples with difficult challenges which need to be addressed through comprehensive self-criticism in preparation for seeking realistic solutions," Dr. Tuweijri said.

He summed up the objectives of the symposium by saying that it aimed at drawing up an integrated intellectual framework which should serve as a starting point for dealing with development problems and would push the wheel of development forward.

"Taking part in the four-day symposium are 70 Muslim scholars, intellectuals, experts and researchers. The symposium will discuss 23 research papers on development from an Islamic perspective."

Government to start spending 1991 supplementary budget on refugee-related projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government has decided to begin spending from a JD 120 million supplementary emergency budget for 1991 approved by Parliament last December. The Ministry of Finance has already issued instructions to the concerned authorities to begin spending the allocated money, Minister of Finance Basel Jaradeh said in a statement here Wednesday.

"Now that the financial resources for this supplementary budget have been secured, along with foreign loans, the government has decided to start using the JD 120 million sum," said the minister in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

In December, Parliament approved two budgets: The normal fiscal budget, which

amounted to JD 1,109.2 million, and a supplementary emergency budget of JD 120 million. The latter budget depended on the Treasury receiving funds over and above the anticipated financial assistance in the regular budget to offset losses resulting from the Gulf crisis and the war that followed.

In April of this year, the minister said in a statement that Jordan's plans for a supplementary emergency budget for fiscal year 1991, to help returnees from Kuwait and the Gulf states, were being realised and related projects were expected to come into being soon.

In his statement Wednesday, the minister did not disclose the projects on which the JD 120 million will be spent, but said that

the sum would be added to a JD 95 million sum allocated for capital expenditures in the 1991 budget.

In his April statement, the minister was quoted as saying that the extra budget was needed to support the government's emergency programme which extends help to tens of thousands of expatriates who have been forced to return from Kuwait. The programme involves setting up or expanding infrastructure, schools, health facilities, water and power supply and transport services.

Such action will help the Kingdom cope with the dramatic increase in consumption as well as help productive projects absorb the returnees into the national economy.

Jordan's population to reach 4.8m by end of century

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's population by the end of the present century is expected to reach 4,849,000, up from 3,571,000 at present, and the present birth rate increase stands at 4.7 per cent a year, according to the secretary general of the National Population Committee (NPC), Dr. Mohammad Akel.

Speaking on the eve of the World Population Day, observed by the United Nations and various countries of the world, Dr. Akel said Jordan's population stood at 3,566,000 in 1992, but the figure soon rose dramatically due to the forced migration of people from the occupied Arab territories in the wake of the Arab-Israeli war of 1948.

In addition, at least 250,000 people who were evicted from Kuwait and the Gulf countries in the wake of the Gulf crisis arrived in Jordan, according to Dr. Akel.

He said that progressive population growth was also attributed to the sharp drop in the infant and child mortality rates, from 152 per one thousand in 1952 to 45 per one thousand in 1990, and also due to the forced migration of people from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip following the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

The mortality rate declined as a result of an improvement in the standard of health services and the rise of the average income of Jordanian citizens, Dr. Akel pointed out. The mortality rate now stands at 6.2 per one thousand, but the fertility rate dropped from 9.2 per one thousand in 1952 to 5.5 per one thousand in 1990.

He also noted that the life expectancy in Jordan now stands at 68 for women and 64 for men. Only 20 per cent of the total number of population is involved

in economic activities in Jordan, with women's participation not exceeding 10 per cent, Dr. Akel added.

He said that this has led to a rise in the rate of sustenance per individual. This means that now each person is responsible for supporting four members of the Jordanian society, compared to one or two in the advanced nations.

Dr. Akel also noted that the Jordanian society is made up of a large percentage of young people, with those under 14 years of age accounting for 43.7 per cent of the total number of the population.

The NPC, which was founded in 1967, aims at establishing a national population strategy and at defining the country's population policy taking into consideration various population activities, Dr. Akel said. He said the strategy was bound to have its positive effects on the Kingdom's socio-economic development.

The Jordan office of the U.N. Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) aims at helping Jordan deal with the population needs, according to the Office Assistant Director for Programmes Lina Obaidat.

She said that her office undertook a three-year programme, between 1986 and 1989, designed to boost Jordan's technical and administrative capabilities in attaining self-dependence in the field of population activities.

The UNFPA is now implementing a project designed to help protect the health of mothers and children and to enable Jordan carry out family planning project. One other project entails training in population data analysis and training of personnel and studies at the University of Jordan.

According to Miss Obaidat, her office is also undertaking a training programme for women to involve them in the country's development projects.

In December of last year, the NPC held a meeting under the chairmanship of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma and endorsed a national health programme concerning birth spacing. The programme was prepared by the committee's General Secretariat. It gives due attention to mother and child care with a stress on birth spacing and breast feeding.

It also aims at collecting, collating and publishing information

Ministry doctors complain of poor working conditions

By Samih Haddad
Petra

AMMAN — Doctors and Specialists working for the Health Ministry Tuesday complained that they were overloaded with work at a time when they receive low salaries and no incentives to encourage them.

The Ministry of Health employs 1,300 doctors and specialists at its hospitals and health centres around the country, but, compared to their colleagues in private hospitals and those run by the Armed Forces, they are underpaid despite the fact that they provide service 24 hours a day, a number of doctors working at Al Bashir government hospital, told the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The scale of salaries for general practitioners and specialists has been in force since 1977 and doctors have not received any

salary increases since then, according to the doctors.

They said they could tolerate the situation no longer and had submitted a memorandum to Health Minister Mamdouh Al Abbadi to try to find acceptable solutions to their problem.

Among the doctors were Khaled Al Daoud, Abdul Mula Momani and Ahmad Armouti.

The doctors said that government-employed doctors faced psychological pressure and received low salaries. This forces many of their colleagues to leave the country seeking better pay in the Gulf countries.

In 1977, the government drew up a special system for salary increments for doctors but since that date there have been no salary increases, they said.

In fact, they added, the government in 1988 decided to reduce the salaries, cutting down a general practitioner's salary to JD

150, down from JD 245. Specialists' salaries were reduced to JD 200 from JD 450, further aggravating the situation.

What is more distressing, they said, is the present low standard of hospital services, lack of modern equipment and medicine despite the fact that government doctors offer nearly 60 per cent of the total medical service in the Kingdom.

The three doctors said that any physician receiving an offer to go abroad would not hesitate to do so because after working here for 30 years, no one can get a pension of more than JD 130.

Statistics show that in 1990 Al Bashir Hospital, the largest government hospital in Jordan, treated 35,000 people despite having only 529 beds.

Surgeons at Al Bashir Hospital performed 12,300 surgeries and had more than 10,000 delivery cases.

CBJ says it has new evidence of Israeli — counterfeited Jordanian dinars

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) announced Wednesday that it had found fresh evidence to prove that Israel was the source of counterfeit JD 20 banknotes that had been earlier found in circulation in the occupied Arab West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

"The CBJ has learnt from credible sources and through the Interpol that the Swiss authorities have seized 50 counterfeit JD 20 banknotes transferred from the Bank of Israel in Jerusalem to Credit Suisse Bank in Zurich," said a CBJ statement. "This incident adds further evidence that Israel is the source of counterfeit

Jordanian currency."

In February 1990, the CBJ announced that it was investigating reports about forged Jordanian currency found in the Gaza Strip.

A bank statement, which came in the wake of the discovery of forged JD 20 bills in the Gaza Strip said then that a similar discovery was made there four years earlier when JD 20 bills were brought to the Kingdom from residents in the occupied Arab territories.

The CBJ statement said that the Israeli authorities were using propaganda campaigns against the Jordanian economy to spread

fears among Palestinians who trade in Jordanian currency.

To 1989, CBJ Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nahulsi accused Israel of trying to undermine the dinar by triggering panic selling of the Jordanian currency in the Israeli occupied West Bank. "The dinar in the West Bank has always been a target for Israeli conspiracies aimed at weakening it," Dr. Nahulsi said in his 1989 statement.

The dinar has been the main legal tender in the West Bank where the Palestinians have been in revolt for three and a half years now against the Israeli occupation.

Insufficient water upsets Sahab factories' production

By Fares Sharaan and
Sandra Khouri
Petra

AMMAN — The Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) current water distribution programme is adversely affecting the work of the Sahab Industrial City, near Amman, and upsetting production programmes of most of the factories, according to industrialists and officials.

For nearly one month now, the factories at the industrial city, many of which need a great amount of water to operate, have not received the bare minimum of water requirements due to poor water pumping during the summer season, said Engineer Fawzi Khouri, who is responsible for the maintenance and operation sections at the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC).

Water supplied to the factories in the industrial city is pumped at the average rate of 2,000 cubic metres a day on Sundays and 300 cubic metres on Thursdays, which is 330 cubic metres a day. The city's real water needs are estimated at between 600 and 700 cubic metres a day, Mr. Khouri said.

The present water supplies are 25 per cent less than the previous years at a time when the needs of the factories are growing progressively since most of those that were operating at half capacity will soon start operating at full capacity to increase exports," Mr. Khouri said.

Factory owners told Petra that the decline in the amount of water reaching the industrial city was bound to have a negative impact on the national economy at a time when the overall amount of water needed accounts for only five per cent of the country's total consumption.

Ibrahim Abo Zeid, one of the factory owners who is also general director of a ceramics plant, said that ceramics production depended to a great extent on water, of which the factory consumes some 25 cubic metres a day.

Azzam Al Tall, another businessman who runs a food processing plant, told Petra that his factory requires up to 120 cubic metres of water if the amount received is less; the production cost increases as water has to be purchased at high cost, he said.

JIEC Director General Fayez Suheimat expressed fear that the water problem would have very serious consequences on the investment process in the industrial city of Sahab at a time when the city's factories are gearing up to

double their production, especially the pharmaceutical and food industries which have already resumed exporting to the Gulf countries.

Nearly 205 factories employing 8,000 workers are experiencing the water crisis, he said. According to Dr. Suheimat, many of these industries — like those producing medicine, food, ceramics and textiles — require great amounts of water supplies.

Ministry of Water and Irrigation Secretary General Mutazz Al Bilbeisi told Petra that the decline in the amount of water pumped to the industrial city was a result of an increase in people's water consumption in the summer season.

Mr. Bilbeisi made it clear that his department could do nothing about the distribution programme during the summer season, especially because of the growing needs of people and in the absence of new water resources.

However, Mr. Bilbeisi said that the WAJ has now made plans to increase the amounts of water supplies to the Amman region in the coming week after water starts being supplied by the Waleh River, south of Madaba. At present, he said, WAJ is conducting experimental water pumping from Al Waleh.

Oumeish reelected medical society head

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Dermatological and Venereological Society has reelected Dr. Oumeish Yousef Oumeish as president of the society and doctors Yousef Al Dammeh, Mustafa Abed Dawoud, Mohammad Sharaf, Ahmad Nazal, Walid Al Bitar and Maamoun Ma'abreh as members of the society's administrative committee.

Dr. Oumeish, a fellow of both the American Academy of Dermatology and the British Association of Dermatologists, was granted as the first Jordanian dermatologist and the third Arab Fellow of the American College of Physicians, for the work he has achieved on skin tumors, particularly the pigmented ones (Malignant Melanoma) and on zoonotic diseases, especially Leishmaniasis.

The goals of the Jordan Dermatological and Venereological Society are to promote the knowledge and teaching of Dermatology which is the Cutaneous Medicine and Venereology which is the Genito-Urinary medicine and also to promote appropriate medical and scientific research, and to publish the results of such research.

It also aims at collecting, collating and publishing information

and at holding conferences, meetings and seminars for the purpose of promoting such objectives. The society will make sure that the members recognise responsibility not only to patients but also

to the society at large, and to other health professionals. Members of the society shall be dedicated to providing medical service with compassion and respect for human dignity.



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Seminar tackles legislative aspects of drug trafficking

By Vesna Masharqa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Jordanian Psychiatric Rehabilitation Society Tuesday held a seminar on "Drugs and Addiction" under the chairmanship of Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib.

Addressing the seminar was Yousef Gharaibeh, the society's vice-president and a retired general from the Public Security Department, who talked about the legislative aspects of drug trafficking. Dr. Waleed Sarhan, the society's president, also addressed the seminar presenting social and clinical profiles of drug addicts.

The seminar, part of a health cultural programme, to be carried out in Amman, Zarqa and Irbid, throughout July, August and September, will address different issues pertaining to mental diseases. Its educational pursuit is to fight the existing prejudice in the Jordanian society about mental disorders which are, according to medical sources, incorrectly regarded as insanity, and to tackle the subject of the growing popularity of non-professional healers.

The Jordanian Psychiatric Rehabilitation Society was established on February 1989.

It has 40 members, among them qualified psychiatrists and volunteers who help out.

The society sponsored many activities over the last two years. One accomplishment was raising funds for improving services in Karameh and Fuhais hospitals and starting a large-scale campaign to spread public mental-health awareness.

Asked about the society's programme for this year, Dr. Sarhan told the Jordan Times: "Our biggest project for this year is to rent a farm, close to the Fuhais Hospital, which will be a theatre for occupational therapy. It will give a chance to the patients to learn many skills, to produce and sell, and this is the best way to the mental and social rehabilitation. We need JD 100,000 for renting fields, buying a bus and equipping the hospital building which is, for the time being, completely empty."

Dr. Sarhan also said the society was planning to resume conducting various activities in order to improve the quality of rehabilitation therapy and would continue sponsoring the public education programme and help its implementation in other Jordanian cities and villages.

WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of paintings and sculptures by Showqi Shoukni, Mohammad Al Jalous and Rifqi Al Razzaq at Abdul Hammed Shemem Foundation 10 a.m. — 8 p.m.
- ★ Ceramics exhibition by Margaret Tadros and Najwa Annab at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ Embroidery exhibition at Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.
- ★ Palestinian heritage exhibition at the Professional Associations Complex, Shmeissani.
- ★ Exhibition of stamp collection at the philatelic club, Jabal Luwaidbeh — opening ceremony at 6 p.m.

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U.N. — a lesson in futility

WE ARE grateful for Edouard Brunner, the U.N. envoy to the Middle East region, for his assertion that the world body is ready to work for the implementation of its resolutions on the Middle East conflicts. We agree with him that the U.N. "does not have the force or the material resources to implement," the resolutions. Yet, only very recently, lest Mr. Brunner forget, an army of half a million, mostly Americans, was fielded under the U.N. banner to "liberate" Kuwait from Iraqi occupation. And everybody knows very well that it was not world nations that fielded the armies against Iraq, nor the U.N., but the U.S. Worse still, Mr. Brunner missed the point. Asked to assess the outcome of his visit, the U.N. envoy said two obstacles stood in the path of peace, one "is procedural" and the other is the "goal of any talks." Even U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, whose peace plan Mr. Brunner said was "underway, alive and ongoing," had said that one of the major obstacles to peace was Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories. We wonder, how is the U.N. going to be "biased towards peace," as Mr. Brunner says, while not being able to point a finger at the intransigent party?

We cannot blame Mr. Brunner or his chief, Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar. The U.N. and the people employed by it are only tools in a world dominated by the powerful. The Arabs have for decades now lost their faith in the U.N. system. They know exactly how world affairs and the world order are being run and what role the U.N. has in these affairs and that order. That is why the Arabs are cooperating directly with centres of power in Washington, London, Peking, Paris and, to a lesser extent these days, Moscow. Mr. Brunner and his colleagues are excused. After all, they are just officials in an organisation that is run and, most importantly, financed by the big powers and that is inefficient and over-inflated.

Yet we do not belittle the sincerity of Mr. Brunner or his colleagues. We remember that some U.N. officials had lost their lives trying to serve the never fulfilled U.N. ideals. Perhaps it is time for men like Mr. Perez de Cuellar, Mr. Brunner and their colleagues in the U.N. to first call things by their names, and second work for the implementation of a just, more balanced and more efficient world order. This might be the plea of the weak. But the weak will not remain so for ever.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

JORDAN has not despaired yet of the United Nations role in implementing the international legitimacy in the Middle East and indeed our confidence in the United Nations increased, having seen the world organisation implementing its resolutions by force in the case of Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, said Al Rai Arabic daily Wednesday. We had thought that the eviction of Iraqi troops from Kuwait would open the door for an end to Israel's occupation of Palestinian land and the restoration of Palestinian people's rights, the paper noted. But, it said, Jordan and the Arab World have been hearing empty words coming from the Western capitals, especially from Washington about peace in the region. Yet no word has been said about the need for Israel to pull out its forces from the occupied lands. The Arabs do not demand that 100,000 tonnes of bombs be dropped on Israel to force it to leave the occupied territories like the Americans and their allies did with Iraq, but the Arabs are demanding that an economic embargo be imposed on the Jewish state depriving its people of food and medicine as is being done against Iraq in order to force the aggressors to give up land they occupied over the past quarter of a century, the paper said.

Sawt Al Shaab daily welcomed a visit to Jordan by U.N. envoy Edouard Brunner and said Jordan realises the heavy responsibilities of the world organisations which seek to establish justice and peace. The paper said that Jordan appreciates the U.N. role in any peace conference designed to end the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict but it insists that the international legitimacy be implemented in this process and that U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 be carried out in full. Mr. Brunner, like all other envoys, has heard from His Majesty King Hussein and Jordanian government leaders, the country's views with regard to a peaceful settlement which should be achieved through U.N. participation and under the world organisation's umbrella, the paper noted. It said that the United Nations does not lack data and information about the long conflict in the region as its offices are full of files about the Arab-Israeli question since 1967 and before. What the United Nations ought to do, said the paper, is to end Israel's intransigence and its rejection of the international legitimacy. The United Nations acting through its Security Council ought to act now and implement resolutions that can bring about peace to the region, the paper called. It said that such peace can never materialise without real pressure to force Israel to comply with the will of the world community.

Moroccan Jews: Lessons from the past

By Tom Porteous

CASABLANCA, Morocco — Israel's policy of drawing in Jewish communities that had been fully integrated in host nations has left many scars in Morocco.

The Jews of Casablanca are a small community today. The 32 synagogues in the fast-growing commercial city are too many for the 7,000 Jews who still remain.

Tangiers, Fez, Rabat and Marrakesh also have their dwindling communities of Jews, but elsewhere, in the smaller towns and villages of Morocco, the Jews have almost disappeared, leaving only their deserted synagogues and their graveyards. Talking to Moroccan Jews, one gets an impression of immense sadness and nostalgia which is all the more poignant because of their great love of Morocco and their determination to stay.

"All those who were going to leave left years ago," said Simon Levy, a professor of linguistics at Casablanca University and a prominent member of the Jewish community. "Our staying or leaving is no longer a political question, but a human-economic one."

Before the foundation of the state of Israel in 1948 there were 300,000 Jews in Morocco. Many belonged to families which had

been resident in the country since before the Arab conquest in the 8th century AD. Others traced their roots to the Andalusian Jewish communities chased from Spain by persecutions after the Christian reconquest of the Iberian peninsula in 1492. The Jewish community in Morocco was intimately involved in the economic and cultural life of the country.

After 1948, the young Jewish state of Israel launched an all-out campaign to persuade Moroccan Jews to leave their native land. Without immigrants, Israel could not survive for long, so the campaign was well orchestrated, well funded and fairly unscrupulous. It was also successful. Between 1948 and 1973 all but a few thousand Jews had left Morocco. The precise methods of the Jewish Agency and Mossad (the Israeli secret service) which organised the exodus are the subject of much controversy and disinformation.

But the pattern is clear: with a combination of threats, promises, inducements and rumours of persecution, the Israelis and American Jewish organisations encouraged the Jews to leave. The biggest waves of emigration were always sparked by a flare-up in the Arab-Israeli conflict, in

1948, 1956, 1967, and 1973. When in the early sixties Moroccan King Mohammed V tried to stop the exodus, the Israelis instigated a campaign of vilification against him which was quickly taken up by the then wholly pro-Israeli Western media.

"Very few Moroccan Jews would have left their homes and villages here if the Israelis had not come to get them," says Mr. Levy frankly. "And the Israelis came here and uprooted them from their homes not for their (the Moroccan Jews) own good, but because Israel was desperate for immigrants."

Once the exodus really got off the ground, there was no stopping it. It spread anxiety and fear among those who stayed behind. In some villages, whole communities left en masse, amid heart-rending scenes with the Muslim population trying to make them stay, according to Mr. Levy. And so the majority left — but not all to Israel. Many emigrated to France, the USA and Canada instead.

As for the fears of persecution they were quite unfounded. Morocco has a tradition of being a safe haven for Jews fleeing persecution elsewhere. They were welcomed at the time of the Spanish Inquisition, and during

the Nazi persecutions of World War II, King Mohammed V responded to French demands that the anti-Semitic laws of Vichy France be applied in Morocco with the words: "They too are our children." Even today in Israel one finds portraits of Mohammed V hanging in the homes of Moroccan Jews.

After Morocco gained independence from France in 1956, Jews were granted full civil rights and equality before the law. Today, even though the Jewish community is much depleted, Jews are working side by side with Arabs in government, in the army or in local assemblies. And Morocco still regards the tens of thousands of Moroccan Jews residing abroad as its own subjects who can return whenever they wish.

Some have returned. The Jews of Casablanca like to tell the story of one of their community who left during the great exodus of the 1960s. In Israel he was unhappy — Moroccan and other oriental Jews were discriminated against by the Ashkenazi Jews of East European origin who monopolised political and economic power. He left for France, but he was unhappy there too, and realised that he yearned to return to his native Morocco. But there was a

problem. When he left he never thought he would return, and had neglected to pay some tax debts. In the intervening years, these debts had accumulated with interest and non-payment fines. He sent his wife to Morocco to see what could be done. The wife went to the tax authorities who agreed to write off one third of what was owed, a considerable sum. Then she went to see old Muslim business associates of her husband's; they agreed to raise another third. The Jewish community raised the rest, and the family returned home.

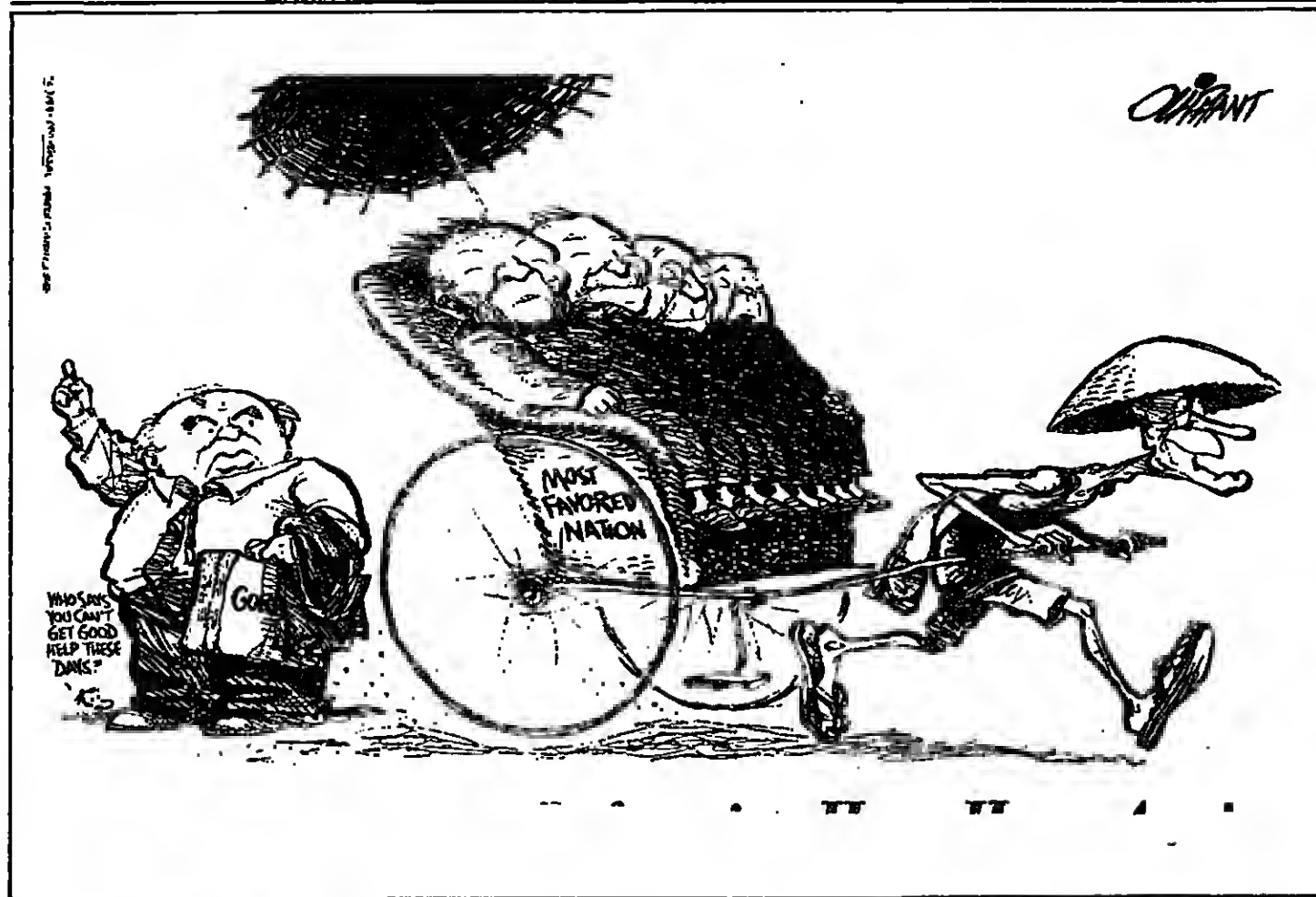
It is a touching story, but one which hardly compensates for the reality of a dwindling community now fearful of growing Arab-Israeli tension as extremists, both Jewish and Muslim, become more loud, and as Arab-Israeli peace continues to elude those who are seeking it.

Shocked and scared by the Gulf war, like everyone else, Moroccan Jews are trying to discover whether there was any particular lesson for them in the conflict. One thing Jews like Simon Levy are very conscious of is that the unresolved Palestinian problem, and the Israeli occupation of Arab land, gave Moroccan a good reason to support Iraq in the war. The famous question of

the "bikage" of Iraq's occupation of Kuwait with Israel's occupation of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, southern Lebanon, and the Syrian Golan Heights touched a raw nerve throughout the Maghreb.

"If it wasn't for the wound of Palestine," says Mr. Levy, "Moroccans would never have supported Iraq as they did." Although the Gulf war did not spark any serious hostility towards Moroccan Jews among the rest of the population, today they fear that the crisis — combined with that festering wound of Palestine — may lead to a growth of extremism in the Maghreb, especially among the young.

But if Moroccan Jews — both Moroccans and Jewish at the same time — are more aware than most of the dangers of the failure of one peace effort after another (dangers for the whole region, perhaps for the whole world), they are also convinced of the possibility of peace. For men like Simon Levy the very existence of Moroccan Jews, whether in Morocco or in Israel or elsewhere, is proof that Jews and Arabs cannot only live together in peace, but work together to prolong their common cultural and religious traditions into the future — World News Link.



Bush wants arms treaty, Gorbachev wants summit — will they trade?

By Alan Cooperman
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev and U.S. President George Bush are prodding their negotiators to wrap up a long-delayed arms treaty by signing at a summit in Moscow late this month.

But Mr. Bush is really more interested in the treaty than the summit, while Mr. Gorbachev is more interested in the summit than the treaty.

Mr. Bush has made it clear that concluding the strategic arms reduction treaty, which would cut the superpowers' long-range nuclear arsenals by 30 per cent, is a pre-condition for his coming to Moscow.

Mr. Gorbachev wants the summit for several reasons, not the least of which is to sign a series of negotiated trade and technical agreements to help the ailing Soviet economy.

These include a tax treaty to avoid double taxation of companies operating in both coun-

tries. Although none of the agreements involve large amounts of aid, they could improve trade and lead to more U.S. investment.

The summit would come on the heels of Mr. Gorbachev's July 17 meeting with leaders of the Group of Seven major industrialised nations. It would give him an ideal opportunity to pursue proposals for Western aid that he will have raised with the G-7.

A summit also would bolster Mr. Gorbachev's position as national leader in the battle with restive Soviet republics for control of the country's resources.

Moreover, both the pomp and substance of a summit with the United States would proclaim to the Soviet people, and the world, that the Soviet Union remains one of the two superpowers.

Communist hard-liners have accused Mr. Gorbachev of "losing" Eastern Europe and allowing a rapid decline in the Soviet Union's position in the world. Some have even suggested that it can no longer be considered a

superpower.

Like Mr. Bush, Mr. Gorbachev has strong reasons to conclude START: cutting nuclear arsenals promotes stability and saves money by reducing the size of the military and slowing the arms race.

After nine years of negotiations, only a few technical issues are blocking agreement on the treaty.

But U.S. officials believe that some Soviet generals are refusing to take the last few steps, and that Mr. Gorbachev has been unable or unwilling to push them.

That belief appears to have motivated Mr. Bush's message to Mr. Gorbachev over the weekend to "energise his bureaucracy" and finish the treaty.

"We want to get their team moving forward as fast as ours is," Mr. Bush said.

Mr. Gorbachev's response Monday was to dispatch Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh and Gen. Mikhail Moiseyev, chief of the Soviet general staff, for talks in

Washington this week with Secretary of State James A. Baker.

Three obstacles to the treaty remain.

The first issue is how much coded flight data must be shared with the other side during missile tests.

The second is whether the Soviets will be allowed to remove some warheads from their missiles. By reducing the number of warheads on each missile, the Soviets would increase the number of missiles they could keep under the treaty.

The final issue is what modifications each side will be allowed to make to its current missiles without constituting a "new type" of missile under treaty rules.

If the Soviet envoys break the deadlock this week in Washington, Mr. Bush may be more inclined to help next week in London when Mr. Gorbachev seeks support for his economic reforms from leaders of the Group of Seven.

Governments risk sabotaging human rights

Amnesty International

GOVERNMENTS around the world are in danger of "sabotaging the world's hopes for human rights", Amnesty International said Wednesday July 10 in releasing its 1991 annual report.

"Some governments are flagrantly torturing and killing — others are hypocritically condemning some abuses but ignoring others when it suits them," the worldwide human rights organisation said.

While the 1990s opened against a background of dramatic political change that often centred on greater respect for human rights — symbolised for many by the release of Nelson Mandela in South Africa and the fall of the Berlin Wall — Amnesty International's global survey of human rights violations shows that abuses continued and often got worse in 141 countries.

People were jailed as prisoners of conscience in about half the countries in the world, more than 100 governments continued to torture or ill-treat prisoners, thousands of people "disappeared" or were extrajudicially executed in 29 countries, and death sentences were handed down or carried out in 90 countries.

The organisation said the mass executions and brutal torture following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait shocked the world and showed clearly the failure of other governments to tackle serious human rights abuses in Iraq in the past.

"We've seen human rights often take a back seat to trade or diplomatic concerns," Amnesty International said, "and become the casualty of political expediency."

The organisation said that while the previously ignored abuses committed by Iraqi forces made headlines and topped the international agenda, the grave violations in other countries like Chad, China, Colombia, Mali, Myanmar, Syria and Turkey were often given short shrift by governments.

In Africa, gross human rights violations continued despite the optimism which followed the release of political prisoners in South Africa early in the year and the abolition of the death penalty in the constitution of the newly-independent Namibia. The persecution of blacks from southern Mauritania reached disturbing new heights, with soldiers mostly from the ruling majority community arresting thousands and randomly killing unarmed villagers in virtually all parts of the south. And in Chad, the outgoing government's final act was to order the killing of at least 300 political prisoners, capping eight years of brutal repression of its suspected opponents.

Even though Iran was again a country where Amnesty International recorded hundreds of executions and other serious abuses, international criticism of the human rights situation there was muted. In Syria thousands of political prisoners were still imprisoned without charge from

previous years, some of them simply because they were related to suspected government critics. In Israel and the occupied Arab territories, some 25,000 Palestinians were arrested, including over 4,000 who were held without charge or trial. And in Morocco over 800 suspected rioters went to prison after unfair trials during December 1990 and early 1991 — many of them said they had been tortured before their trials.

Asia too was the stage for disturbing human rights violations. In Sri Lanka thousands of civilians were extrajudicially executed or "disappeared". An unprecedented rise in violence and killings by separatist groups in several regions of India was accompanied by a similar rise in politically motivated killings by government forces in which many hundreds of people died. And in China thousands of pro-democracy protesters arrested the previous year were still detained without ever being charged or tried, and the 750 firing squad executions recorded by Amnesty International were the highest number since 1983.

In the Americas, the high rate of "disappearances" and extrajudicial executions in Colombia continued and more than 300 men, women and children "disappeared" after being arrested by security forces in Peru. Children too were gunned down by "death squads" in Guatemala and Brazil — in Rio de Janeiro alone the majority of the 500 children who died violent deaths were killed by death squads. In El Salvador, the killings by "death squads" — often made up of police officers or soldiers — doubled in the first eight months of 1990 compared to the previous year. And in the United States, more than 2,300 people were still on death row in well over half the states and 23 people were executed during the year.

"The sweeping political changes in Eastern Europe saw an end to the widespread unjust political imprisonment of the past," Amnesty International said, "but other human rights abuses in Europe continued, often in a climate of growing ethnic conflict or nationalist demands."

Over 1,000 ethnic Albanians in Yugoslavia's Kosovo province were imprisoned for up to 60 days for going on strike or peacefully expressing nationalist sentiments and at least 30 demonstrators or onlookers were killed and several hundred wounded during violent clashes with the police. At least 600 political prisoners were still held in Albania at the end of the year, the majority of them prisoners of conscience. In the USSR at least 30 Armenians were murdered in Azerbaijan in a reported pogrom while local police and soldiers apparently stood by and did nothing to protect them. The pattern of widespread and systematic torture which has persisted for years in Turkey continued in 1990. And in about half the countries in Europe, including France, Switzerland and Greece, conscientious objectors to military service were imprisoned as prisoners of conscience.

More than 60% of world's beaches are washing away

UNESCO release

PARIS — The tourists basking in the sunshine on a sandy beach may not notice it between one vacation and the next, but the sandy strip they are relaxing on is probably getting a little bit narrower each year.

The phenomenon is global — according to a survey by the International Geographical Union and the Commission on the Coastal Environment, 70 per cent of the sandy beaches of the world are regressing.

Dr. Roland Paskoff of the University of Lyon, who has studied beach regression in North Africa, presented his results at a conference in May on "Coastal Systems

and Sustainable Development," organised by the COMAR programme of UNESCO.

There are many reasons for the regression. The damming of rivers that flow into the Mediterranean means that the new sediment they used to transport to the sea and the beaches is no longer coming in. Another factor is the rising sea level.

In many places on the North African coast one can see ruins of constructions from the Roman age that are now under water. Current estimates of the rate of sea level rise vary between different sites — in Algeria the rate is estimated to 1.5 mm per year, whereas on the coast of Sfax in Tunisia the rise is 5.7 mm per

year. Over a decade that latter rate adds up to 5.7 cm — in a hundred years more than half a metre.

Sea level rise, which has many causes, is not the only culprit. Construction on sandy beaches often speeds up the regression, as well as the removal of plants from the dunes.

"Sea walls, put up to protect buildings on the beach, aggravate the regression of the sandy beaches. The wall keeps the waves from biting or undermining the building — but also deflects the impact of the wave down, so that it digs away at the sand. In many places one can see former beaches where the sea comes right up to the bottom of

the sea wall," said Dr. Paskoff.

The effect can be combated by pouring more sand on the beaches, but this is an expensive remedy that is unlikely to be useful other than in the most extensively developed sectors, the beaches in front of large tourist hotels and resorts.

Dr. Paskoff argued instead for better planning, studies of the situation on each beach, and more consistent management of beaches. Building a hotel a little further away from the surf may in the long run save its owners the inconvenience of transforming the outermost rooms into wading pools, once the beach has washed away.

Some children can only dream of school

By Tom Porteous

BANGKOK — The usual hustlers, pimps and employment agents are gathered to swap information under the shady porticoes of Hualumphong Railway Station. They are waiting for the next train from the north. It is bound to bring another two dozen or more young candidates for

the endless supply of ill-paid and often dangerous labour in the brothels, factories, workshops, restaurants, and petrol stations of Bangkok. The younger the workers are, the lower the price and the higher the profit for the employer.

Hualumphong station, and the sleazy row of competing employment agencies that

line a street next to the railway terminal, is the first, depressing view of Bangkok for many of the growing numbers of children migrating from impoverished farms and villages in the north of Thailand in search of employment in the big city.

Saman, who says he's 14 years old (few child labourers will admit they are under 15, the legal limit for employment), arrived from Surin province a year ago and found a job working 12 hours a day as a waiter in a restaurant. He came to Bangkok after his father fell into debt, sold his farm, and was then unable to pay the rent to his new landlord. The oldest of three children, Saman is, like many child workers, proud to be able to help his family.

But he agrees with Somphot, a gas station-attendant earning 500 baht a month (\$20), that, at his age, it would be better to study than to work. "I would like to have a uniform and go to school," said Somphot, a very young-looking "14-year-old," referring to the middle-class schoolchildren he sees every morning and evening on their way to and from school. "I am very lonely in Bangkok and sometimes afraid."

Wiros, a 14-year-old employee at a printer's shop, is also lonely. Because he sends most of his earnings to his family in Kemptong province, he spends much of the little spare time he has watching TV in one of the big department stores — until he gets turned out by the security men.

Wiros, Somphot and tens of thousands of children like them are the typical ones. These are not the extreme cases, like the 8-year-old girls drugged and abducted to the notorious fortress brothels of Bangkok, or the child prostitutes found chained to their beds and burnt to death after a fire in a brothel, or the young factory workers kept locked up at their workplaces for months on end while they repay through their forced labour loans made to their parents by employment agents.

From time to time the more horrifying cases of child exploitation make headlines in the Thai press and reach the criminal courts. This in turn has helped to curb the worst excesses of child employers in recent years, according to social workers. But the general practice of child labour — less sensational — openly tolerated and partially legal — continues to grow steadily with the decline of Thailand's rural economy and the growth of Bangkok's labour market.

"Everyone recognises that this is now a serious problem," said Viti Muntarbhorn, a leading campaigner for children's rights and a teacher at the Faculty of Law at Bangkok's Chulalongkorn University. "But the first thing one learns is not to expect too much from the law."

Children's dexterous fingers are particularly valuable in gem factories, one electronic goods production lines

and in the garment sweatshops that abound on the drab periphery of Bangkok. Usually the children have to pay from their meager earnings for food and accommodation provided by the employers at the place of work.

Malnourishment, weak eyesight, bad posture, stunted growth, depression, anxiety and sheer despair are among the common conditions encountered among working children by the non-governmental Foundation for Child Development, which tries to educate and help those child workers it can reach in the capital. Health workers have also come across children who are permanently crippled from work accidents or scarred from beatings. Growing public awareness of AIDS has had a negative effect on child prostitution. Brothel owners are trying to recruit ever younger girls because many clients believe, incorrectly, that the younger the girl, the less likely she is to be infected.

Appeal, a 12 year old prostitute in one of the cheaper brothels in Bangkok, came to the Emergency Home for Women and Children recently and was found to be an AIDS carrier infected with the HIV virus. After a few weeks of counseling and care, during which social workers tried to persuade her to find another way of earning a living, she disappeared, and is probably working again as a prostitute. There are many like her.

Whether in normal work or

in the sex industry, the long-term prospects for the growing numbers of child labourers are bleak. "Instead of being able to focus on the creative and varied activities associated with education," said Viti, "many of these children are limited to repeating one manual act throughout the day in the same poorly lit and poorly ventilated surroundings. We are seeing the creation of an unfortunate class which will remain underprivileged because they have been denied the broader spectrum of education and family care."

Although they acknowledge the problem, government agencies responsible for dealing with it say they haven't enough labour inspectors to root out the worst exploiters. Voluntary organisations haven't enough resources to take more than basic remedial measures: Providing health care, advice, training and recreation facilities to working children.

While such efforts are clearly providing some relief to individual children, the problem has deeper social and economic roots that the present economic policies of the government are actually nurturing, said Viti, who is preparing a report for the United Nations on the sale of children for labour, sex or adoption. "We tend to present a glowing account of Thailand in terms of economic performance and so forth," said Viti. "But in fact that's highly deceptive, precisely because it is not re-



For the girls, the main source of employment are Bangkok's brothels, but there are exceptions, like this young baker who spends most of her life preparing eggroll wrappers.

flected in terms of social equity at the lower level."

So far, the enormous economic growth of recent years has not significantly improved the lot of the poor. In northeastern Thailand, where most of Bangkok's child labourers and prostitutes come from, the situation has actually deteriorated. Economic success has merely concentrated even greater wealth in the hands of the rich minority and wide-

ned the gap between the rich and poor. And because the rich are the ones ultimately responsible for introducing social programmes to combat the trend, Viti and other critics are not optimistic that the situation is about to improve.

Meanwhile, the thriving labour market in Bangkok continues to devour its young victims as they step off the trains at Hualumphong Station — World News Link.

50-year mystery over missing U.S. pilot may be cracked soon

By Jeff Franks
Reuter

HOUSTON, Texas — Deep sea researchers may soon crack one of aviation's greatest mysteries — the disappearance of U.S. pilot Amelia Earhart over 50 years ago.

Earhart, the first woman to fly across the Atlantic, was trying to repeat the feat across the Pacific when her Lockheed 10-E Electra aircraft went down on July 2, 1937.

The plane was never found, and no one knows what happened to Earhart and navigator Fred Noonan.

But in January, scientists from the Federal Bureau of Investigation proved a metal box discovered on an uninhabited South Pacific Island came from Earhart's plane, providing the first concrete evidence of its whereabouts.

Armed with high-tech ocean-scanners, a 16-strong team from research firm Oceaneering International is preparing to comb the beach and waters around the tiny island of Nikumaroro in a bid to locate and photograph the missing plane.

Theories about the fate of Earhart and Noonan have filled over 30 books.

The influential international group for historic aircraft recovery (Tigar) believes the flyers lost their way, ran out of fuel and made an emergency landing on a coral shelf surrounding the 3 1/2-mile-long (six kilometres) atoll.

The coral is dry at low tide, but covered by up to four feet (1.2 metres) of water when the tide comes in, Tigar Executive Director Richard Gillespie said in an interview. He thinks the aircraft, buoyed by empty fuel tanks,

probably floated on the reef for several days before sinking somewhere off the coast.

Tigar's theory about Earhart is based on reports during World War II that traces of a "survival" camp were found on the island, other reports that Earhart attempted radio calls from the area four days after the plane disappeared, and the discovery on the island in 1989 of the metal box, which proved to be the navigator's bookcase.

Experts from Oceaneering International will use an underwater sonar device to scan the sea three miles (five kilometres) around the island at depths down to 2,000 feet (610 metres). The project will begin in September.

The company used the same technology to pinpoint bits of the space shuttle Challenger in the sea after it exploded in January 1986, killing all seven crew.

It also located a South African airways airliner 14,500 feet (4,420 metres) down in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Mauritius and an aircraft door that fell into the Pacific at around the same depth.

By comparison, finding Earhart's plane should be simple — if it is where Tigar believes it is, said Mike Kutzleb, general manager of Oceaneering's Search and Survey Division.

"Technically, it doesn't present that much of a challenge to us. Historically and interest-wise, that's where the challenge is," he said.

The sonar device beams out signals that bounce back and provide an outline of the ocean bottom. The technology is used by oil companies laying pipelines to offshore wells.

"The hardest thing is to



Amelia Earhart

differentiate between mother nature and manmade objects," Kutzleb said. "We're hoping (the plane) is in about 500 feet (150 metres) of water because if it's in shallow water it could be swallowed up by vegetation or encrusted with coral so that its shape is not distinguishable."

While Oceaneering's team covers the coast, Tigar representatives will comb heavy vegetation on the atoll with metal detectors.

Gillespie said he believed Earhart and Noonan set up camp "just like Robinson Crusoe," but may have died

in a severe drought thought to have hit the area in 1938.

A search plane flew over Nikumaroro a week after the aircraft went down and reported signs of human habitation but a rescue team was never sent ashore.

A Japanese group, anxious to disprove theories that Earhart was killed by the Japanese in the buildup to World War II, is helping finance the search, Gillespie said. He hopes that if the plane is found, it will be recovered on a later mission and returned to the United States.

Captain Bligh unfairly tarnished by mutiny on the Bounty

By Wilson Da Silva
Reuter

SYDNEY — The statue of Captain William Bligh in Sydney cove says it was built "to restore the proper image of a much-maligned and gallant man."

Controversy has followed Capt. Bligh since the crew of his ship HMS Bounty mutinied against his command in 1789.

Capt. Bligh has been popularly portrayed as a foul-mouthed sadist, but organisers of the world's most detailed exhibition on the mutiny say he was a clever man whose achievements have been forgotten, while his crew's historically insignificant revolt has been blown out of all proportion.

"Bligh ordered flogging less than Captain James Cook ever did," said curator Paul Brunton of Australia's State Library of New South Wales, comparing Capt. Bligh with the decorated British explorer credited with discovering Australia.

"He wasn't as brilliant as Cook at navigation, but he has certainly been given an undeservedly bad name."

The library has just completed a five-month exhibition, "Mutiny on the Bounty," which brought together more than 100 artefacts surrounding the mutiny.

It includes maps, paintings, telescopes, Capt. Bligh's handwritten logbook — which he took with him when he was thrown off his ship — numerous letters and journals written by participants, and the proceedings of the famous court martial that followed.

Capt. Bligh sailed with Capt. Cook fought bloody naval battles alongside Nelson and was made governor of the young Australian colony of New South Wales. Some current maps are based

on the navigation charts he drew during voyages with Capt. Cook.

But he is primarily remembered for the shipboard rebellion, led by his second-in-command Fletcher Christian, in the early hours of April 28, 1789.

"Just before sunrise, Mr. Christian and the master at arms ... came into my cabin while I was fast asleep and seizing me, tied my hands with a cord and threatened instant death if I made the least noise," Capt. Bligh wrote in his log.

Capt. Bligh and 18 loyal crewmen were cast adrift in a small open boat with scant rations. Without charts and suffering incredible hardships, Capt. Bligh steered them to safety on Timor in the Dutch East Indies after a 41-day and 6,705 kilometres journey.

It was a feat which confirmed Capt. Bligh's resourcefulness, his supporters say.

But popular history has made Mr. Christian, not Capt. Bligh, the hero. Five films have portrayed Capt. Bligh as a cruel and tyrannical commander, personified by Charles Laughton, Trevor Howard and Anthony Hopkins, while Mr. Christian has been played by sex symbols like Errol Flynn, Marlon Brando and Mel Gibson.

Most of the 2,500 books and articles have focused on the romance and myth of the south seas story.

"Bligh has always been portrayed as an old man in his sixties, when he was in fact only 33, while Christian has always been the young and virile romantic lead," said Mr. Brunton.

Many scholars blame Capt. Bligh for the mutiny. Some attribute it to his brutish behaviour. Others regard him merely as overzealous and overbearing. One psychologist blames the mutiny on



Marlon Brando is one of the actors who played the part of Fletcher Christian in the 1962 Mutiny on the Bounty.

Capt. Bligh's purported frustration and guilt over his homosexual feelings for Mr. Christian.

Mr. Brunton, who spent 18 months researching the tale, said the mutiny was a minor maritime incident which turned into an issue during the court martial of the mutineers.

There was a campaign to discredit Capt. Bligh and make the mutiny seem justifiable, led by the moneyed families of some of the mutineers, Mr. Brunton says. Bligh came from a humble background, unusual for a Royal Navy captain of the time, and it worked against him.

Acquitted of his ship's loss

in the court martial, Capt. Bligh commanded return voyages to the Pacific and was promoted to vice-admiral three years before his death in 1817.

He was sent to New South Wales as governor in 1805. But complaints of his oppressive behaviour led three years later to another revolt against his authority.

Mr. Christian and the other Bounty mutineers sailed to Pitcairn Island, an isolated rock in the Pacific where their descendants live today. Some of the mutineers returned to Tahiti where a group was captured. Those who survived the journey to England were court-martialled and three hanged.

Summer weddings

By Maha Addasi

HOT weather, mosquitoes, and uninvited guests have one thing in common: All are unwanted and come together to summer weddings. First prize for degree of irritation goes to uninvited you-know-who's who are wheeled into wedding halls in their prams by their parents, where they proceed to entertain the guests with their wailing and flailing.

Let me proceed to the reasons given by some parents for why they bring their babies to weddings fully ignoring the subscript on the invitation card specifying that "children are not invited," and then I will go straight to the solutions to this not-so-new problem.

Some parents assume, and they assumed wrong of course, that their baby is very cute and that, "no-one would be bothered by the presence of our adorable little one." Others feel that they are "close friends of the family so their children are welcome." What these people do not realise is that even during the party or reception these "close friends" fast become "close enemies." There are also those people who are so protective of their children that they do not trust to leave them in "the hands of a baby-sitter" — probably because the kids are so lacking in discipline the baby-sitter may be tempted to cook them for dinner rather than cook dinner for them. Anyway, whatever the reasons these parents have, we must come up with solutions to jolt them into reality so that people can at least have peaceful ceremonies.

Solution number one: This is the written form of the solution. Write on the invitation card that "children are not invited." If that does not deter the accompanying of the twits to the wedding, (actually it would be too late if you want to test the theory because if it does not work, "they" will be there at the wedding) proceed to solution two. Write, also on the invitation card, that "if you bring your children to the wedding reception there will be consequences?" That way if you proceed to solution three, and put all the blame on the parents, because you already warned them.

Solution three, which has a success rate upwards of 99 per cent, is a sure-fire way to rid you of most of the rowdiness children can create if they start to cry and jump-start all the other kids within a mile's radius at the party. This solution entails the hiring of a "special usher." This usher is a person who would stand at the end of the receiving line at the entrance of the reception hall. At the sight of a child, this person's role begins. He approaches the "culprits" accompanying the child (or children), and discreetly shows them the side-door leading to the parking



lot. It is best that the usher not be related to either the bride or groom. As it is the bride or the groom's family will not see these "guests" again until their child has grown up.

The only problem with solution three is that it works. Judging by the number of people who bring their kids, if you adopt solution three the reception hall will remain empty. And there is not much celebration without people.

So the guests are either parents and children or no one at all — the basic all or nothing theory. If you want a "real" party, there are no real solutions to having kids around, sorry. When kids do show up with their parents, you can grin and simmer. You can simmer freely, but in silence of course.

The golden fledgling

By E. Yaghi

(Part II)

Bursting through the door, the leader snarled, "Where is the boy? Tell us at once! We know he came in here. We have witnesses. If you don't tell us, we will kill you!"

Panic stricken by now, the old woman denied any knowledge of a boy entering her house.

"Search the house!" hissed the stocky leader. She cringed in fear as the police broke and rummaged through her few worldly possessions.

"Please," begged Sarah, "Please leave me alone. I know nothing of any boy!"

"Liar," yelled the leader, "You are all liars!" As he shouted one of his men forced open the cellar door. The boy crouched in horror at his foreseeable discovery.

At first the policeman did not see the boy and then as his eyes strained themselves in the unaccustomed dark, he saw Haitham trying to make himself invisible in a corner.

"Here he is!" the policeman shouted as he ripped the boy out of the cellar with one forcible swing. "This is one of the brats that was throwing stones!"

The five policemen all wrenched the boy from one another and began mercilessly beating him with their thick clubs. The young boy screamed with pain and horror as his blood gushed out like a relinquished dam from the relentless blows on his head and body.

Sarah shrieked in anger, entreating the world and the village to stop the inhumane beating of the boy. "In God's mercy," she cried, "leave the boy alone! You are armed with weapons and clubs. You call yourselves police yet you all chase one small boy. Tyrants!"

As she spoke, blood oozed forth on Haitham's silky hair and on over his clothes. While she was still pleading, one of the policemen struck her head a hard blow with his club. She sank down praying for God's mercy, for the safety of her sons and for Haitham and one final prayer for herself. She died helplessly murdered in a pool of her own blood.

Unheeding the death of the old woman, the police grabbed the boy, dragged him outside and threw him in their van. Inside the van, other young prisoners, also guilty of stone throwing, wiped Haitham's face, trying to clean the flood of blood that still gushed out of his head wounds. He felt a blinding pain and helpless, hopeless fear. He remembered old Sarah dying for him and felt responsible for her death. His own death seemed imminent.

He was taken with the other captives to an underground dungeon. Unearthly dank smells were everywhere. He could hear the screams of prisoners being tortured. He felt meek and numb. The guards threw him into a small cell with about fifty other boys and men.

"Let's make an example out of this one," a vicious police told his friend. "At midnight we'll come and take the boy out and hang him. He will be an example for all stone throwers. Freedom, equality, bah! All of them should be killed so we can be rid of them and take this country for ourselves!"

Hungry, cold and paralysed with fear, Haitham huddled

against an older boy whose face was swollen from beating. His right arm was broken. "Hey kid," he offered, "you will be all right. You are a hero. Good for you and damn the occupation! The world is deaf to our torment and torture. If the mountains, hills and rivers of our country could talk as witnesses to our agony, they would scream in mortification for all our suffering! Long live freedom, democracy and our country! Our women and children fight a courageous yet helpless fight. Quiet my boy, you are here with us!" But Haitham wondered who his mate was trying to convince to be brave.

At midnight, two policemen came and forced Haitham out of his cell. The other prisoners demanded the police leave the boy alone and let him go home to his family, but the police only clubbed the resisting cellmates while the other raised his gun on them.

The world lay sleeping as one small, frightened boy was forced into the police car and taken outside the village. As it approached an ancient olive tree, the car silently crept to a halt. The police grabbed a thick rough rope from the back seat of the car.

"Please, what are you going to do to me? Please let me go home!" pleaded Haitham. By now, his blood had matted his hair and thickened to a crust. He saw bulky, snake-like rope with the same policeman who had heartlessly struck down the old woman.

"Here boy, we are going to make you an example for all stone throwers and revolutionists. May you all perish and be damned," growled one of the murderers.

Reaching deep into his small body, the young 'golden eagle' drew up the strength of a man and said, "no, may you be damned for injustice, for murder, for not letting a boy be just a boy. Our only weapons are stones. If you kill me, I shall die a martyr, but you shall go to hell! My blood will be on your hands and you won't be able to wash it off. Long live Palestine! Down with occupation!"

With this last sentence, the murderers tied a noose around the neck of the deserted innocent boy, a boy who in any other country would have been playing with his friends, not fighting for liberty. The two policemen, contradicting their own uniforms, roughly strung the fledgling up in the tree. He kicked and yelled, fighting the rope that choked his life out of him until his neck snapped.

The evil deed done, the two criminals slunk to their car, and returned to their own homes and children, not once thinking of the young eagle left to die alone while the world slept its dreary lazy sleep.

In the morning, Haitham's small body was carried dead to his home. His little brothers cried in dismay at his death. His mother gave one long, piercing scream and then fainted. Her neighbours, some with their own husbands and sons in prison, or dead, came to comfort her. Only one of many small lives was snuffed out as if it were only a candle flame. Another life joined the list of the unending and hopeless cause of liberty and freedom. Meanwhile, around the world, people woke to a new day, a cup of tea, or coffee, a leisurely, carefree or busy day.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Thursday, July 11

1810 — Napoleonic empire annexes Holland.

1899 — Transvaal government decides immigrants to Transvaal will be enfranchised after residence of seven years.

1956 — Finno-Karelian Republic is abolished through incorporation into Soviet Union as Karelian Autonomous Republic.

1960 — Premier Moise Tshombe of Katanga proclaims independence of that Zairean province.

1963 — Army in Ecuador ousts President Carlos Julio Arosemena, charging he is a Communist sympathiser.

1967 — Communist-led mobs of Chinese in Hong Kong step up terrorist activities, and British authorities halt all public transport as safety measure.

1971 — Moroccan government says leaders of a coup against King Hassan have been slain or arrested.

1978 — Truck carrying industrial gas explodes and sets fire to campsite on Mediterranean coast in Spain, killing at least 180 people.

1987 — United Nations proclaims newborn boy Matej Gaspar in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, as world's five billionth inhabitant.

1990 — Hundreds of thousands of miners in the Ukraine hold a one-day strike to protest the policies of the Soviet government.

Friday, July 12

1869 — Parliamentary system is adopted by Napoleon III of France.

1902 — Australia's parliament passes immigration restriction act and gives women the vote.

1941 — British-Soviet mutual aid pact of World War II is signed.

1957 — Prince Karim 20-year-old student at Harvard University, becomes Aga Khan and leader of 20 million Ismaili Muslims following death of his grandfather.

1960 — France agrees to independence of Dahomey, Niger, Upper Volta, Ivory Coast, Chad, Central Africa

and the Congo.

1967 — Chinese Communist mobs in Hong Kong wreck government building and attack police in most violent of four days of anti-British rioting.

1971 — Orangemen in Northern Ireland march in city streets to celebrate half century of Protestant rule.

1973 — U.S. pilots fly heavy air strikes against Cambodian insurgents as fighting is reported South and West of Phnom Penh.

1977 — U.S. President Jimmy Carter goes on record as favouring development of neutron bomb, saying it would provide flexibility because of its less destructive effect.

1987 — Lebanon's Justice Minister Nabih Berri calls for declaration of "economic state of emergency" to cope with nation's worst financial crisis in 12 years of civil war.

1990 — Boris Yeltsin resigns the Communist Party during the 28th meeting of the party congress.

Saturday, July 13

1822 — Greeks defeat Turks at Thermopylae Pass in Greece.

1841 — Major powers, by convention of the straits, guarantee Ottoman independence, and the Dardanelles and Bosphorus are closed to warships of all nations in peacetime.

1854 — Abbas I, viceroy of Egypt, is murdered, and is succeeded by Mohammad Said.

1863 — Rioting against U.S. Civil War military conscription breaks out in New York City, and about 1,000 people are killed in three days of disorder.

1878 — Russo-Turkish War ends.

1911 — Britain and Japan renew their alliance for four years.

1919 — First dirigible to cross Atlantic Ocean, Britain's A-34, completes its round trip.

1963 — Chinese accuse United States of trying to poison relations between Peking and Moscow.

1971 — Firing squads in Morocco execute 10 army

officers accused of trying to overthrow King Hassan.

1976 — Twelve nations conclude meeting in Paris on exploitation of minerals in Antarctic after 1989.

1986 — Two Muslims are burned alive by Hindus at main government hospital in India's Gujarat state on fifth day of Hindu-Muslim riots.

1987 — Two Iranian gunboats attack French container ship in the Gulf off Saudi Arabia, and Iraq says its warplanes made retaliatory raids.

1989 — Bomb explodes outside Honduras discotheque patronised by U.S. soldiers, wounding seven U.S. army military policemen.

1990 — Mayors of Moscow and Leningrad show solidarity with populist Boris Yeltsin by resigning from Communist Party on last day of party congress.

Sunday, July 14

1544 — England's King Henry VIII crosses to Calais to join Holy Roman Emperor Charles V in campaign against France's King Francis I in Picardy.

1690 — Seven French privateers capture New England islands of Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket and Block Island.

1789 — Citizens of Paris storm and capture Bastille Prison and release prisoners, marking start of French Revolution.

1790 — France's King Louis XVI accepts the revolutionary constitution.

1886 — Britain and Germany agree on frontiers of Gold Coast and Togoland in Africa.

1900 — International expedition, including United States and Japan, takes Tientsin in China.

1933 — German political parties, other than Nazis, are suppressed.

1934 — Oil pipeline between Mosul and Tripoli is opened.

1960 — Leopoldville government severs relations with Belgium.

1967 — U.N. General Assembly adopts resolution asking Israel to halt action it was taking to alter city of Jerusalem after the war.

1988 — Iran, at United

Nations, accused United States of committing "barbaric crime" in shooting down Iranian commercial airliner.

1989 — Leaders of world's seven richest nations open annual summit in Paris, with talks focused on economic struggles in Eastern Europe.

1990 — British Trade and Industry Secretary Nicholas Ridley resigns after publication of interview in which he accused Germany of trying to take over Europe and called French obedient "poodles" to Germans.

Monday, July 15

1789 — France's King Louis XVI is awakened and told that his authority has collapsed with the fall of the Bastille.

1801 — France and Papacy sign Concordat whereby French ecclesiastics are to be appointed by government and merely confirmed by Pope.

1822 — Turkish invasion of Greece begins, and Turks overrun peninsula north of Gulf of Corinth but later are forced to retreat.

1857 — British women and children, taken by Indians at Cawnpore in India, are murdered.

1893 — Matabele stage uprising against rule of British South Africa Company.

1909 — Mohammad Ali, shah of Persia, is deposed in favour of Sultan Ahmad Shah, age 12.

1945 — Italy declares war on Japan, its former axis partner, in World War II.

1948 — U.N. Security Council orders truce in Palestine.

1958 — United States dispatches troops to Lebanon at request of President Chamoun; South Africa resumes full membership in United Nations.

1974 — Greek officers of army in Cyprus oust Archbishop Makarios from presidency.

1990 — Tens of thousands of people march to Kremlin walls to protest Communist Party control of Soviet government, army and KGB.

By The Associated Press

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, July 11

8:30 The Family Man

Fireman Jack is trying very hard to guide his family through life now that they have lost their mother, with little results.

9:10 Outlaws

The boys are not only able to rescue their friends from jail and catch the villains, they also form an anti-crime association.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Movie Of The Week

Friday, July 12

8:30 Night Court

The Computer Kid Judge Harold looks into the case of the computer kid who managed to sneak into the administration's computers for non-criminal reasons.

10:00 News in English

10:20 In the Heart Of The Night

Christina's house burns down and her husband dies inside. All this happens while she is in the hospital. Still, the police thinks she is involved.

Saturday, July 13

8:30 The Bill Cosby Show

Denise's only ambition in her life is to become a teacher of children with learning disabilities... but problems lie ahead.

9:00 Encounter

10:00 News in English

10:20 Feature Film

Sunday, July 14

8:30 Yes Minister

Jobs For The Boys The minister is vehemently defending a project that is undertaken jointly by the government and the private sector. It is unfortunate that the minister does not know all the details.

9:10 Documentary: French Services

10:00 News in English

10:20 B.L. Stryker

Starring: Burt Reynolds Comedian actor Toby is back on the theatre stage, but a series of unexplained accidents causes him to hire the services of Stryker.

Monday, July 15

8:30 Empty Nest

The Westons are determined to celebrate Charlie's birthday... but they are unable to gather any crowd for the occasion. Charlie goes out looking for a crowd.

9:10 Murder She Wrote

Jessica investigates the murder case of Jim, the mayor. It proves to be a difficult investigation because of the election campaign.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Separate But Equal

The nine judges of the Supreme Court announce their verdict which affects blacks... and whites.

Tuesday, July 16

8:55 Museums In Jordan

Archaeological Museum — University of Jordan Zafer Toukan pays a visit to the Archaeological Museum of the University of Jordan and explores the treasures collected inside.

9:10 Our House

Growing Up, Growing Old In this episode, the saying "a neighbour in need is a neighbour indeed" is applied

to the fullest.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Columbo

Stitch In Crime Sometimes, some people go out of their way in pursuit of fame and fortune no matter how rich and famous they are.

Wednesday, July 17

8:30 Don't Wait Up

Latimer, the father, gets very angry when he learns of the disappearance of his research article. But his son, Tom, intervenes and solves the problem peacefully.

9:10 Silk Route Of The Sea

Happy Arabia Yemen, where the oldest civilisations have appeared, has occupied one of the most important trade routes.

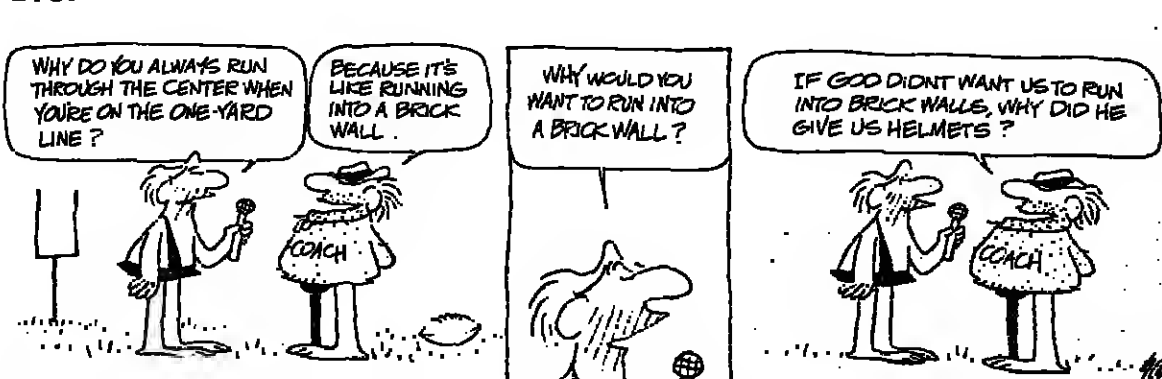
10:00 News in English

10:20 French Mini Series

Les Cavaliers Aux Yeux Vents

By the time Elie managed to find his family in Brazil, his family was already negotiating the transfer of the farm to them. Elie helps them with the funding arrangement.

B.C.



Woody Allen pushes healthy eating — for \$2 m

By John Follain

Reuters

ROME — Woody Allen says he has never dieted, never shopped in a supermarket, and hates commercials.

But that hasn't prevented him making television advertisements on healthy eating for Italy's biggest supermarket chain — a deal worth some \$2 million.

"I've never been on a diet in my life. I can eat any kind of ice cream or dessert and my weight doesn't change," said the New York actor-director, dressed for the hot Roman summer in a shapeless grey suit.

Allen, 56, seemed stung by charges that he had sold himself to Mammon in making five advertisements for the

Coop Company, which once recruited American actor Peter Falk of Colombo fame to sing its praises.

"What's so strange? ... Let people think what they want. And let's make the truth clear: I don't earn a cent with my (feature-length) films," Allen told reporters at a luxury hotel during a brief visit to Rome.

"I have a big family and I thought the offer was interesting," he added, nervously fidgeting with his headphones.

Together with his crew, the nearest and dearest he brought with him — actress Mia Farrow and several children — took over an entire hotel floor sealed off by several bodyguards.

A unique brand of New York humour and angst may have propelled him from obscure gag-writer to acclaimed director, but none of his films ever brought in blockbuster profits.

"In the U.S. directors are ashamed to say they are filming ads, and the public doesn't even notice it. I think I at least did some funny things," said Allen.

He candidly added he hated television commercials: "They go in one ear and out the other."

The Italian retailers gave him the free rein he is used to from film studio backers in New York — total control from start to finish, virtually no questions asked.

In a relationship no other

filmmaker could boast, even his most celebrated works — *Annie Hall* (1977), *Manhattan* (1979) and *Hannah and Her Sisters* (1986) — were made in total secrecy, the scripts vetted only by top studio executives and the titles unknown even to them.

Allen was asked to do a commercial for Campari several years ago but that fell through when his scenario set inside a brothel failed to arouse the makers' enthusiasm.

This time, the end product is a bizarre patchwork typical of Allen. In one commercial, extra-terrestrials descend on Earth in a space ship, to the thundering tones of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, and ask what is worth

eating on the planet.

Settings for the other commercial include an art gallery in New York's soho sporting plastic statues of giant steaks, a cocktail party on 57th street, a psychiatrist's study, and a cottage in the Roman countryside.

"Please don't expect too much, perhaps I was the only one who had fun," said Allen.

Asked why he did not write himself into the commercials, he answered: "I don't think I'd be credible as an Italian consumer ... and I've never been in a supermarket in my life. There's always a housekeeper who shops for us."

Allen has only just finished his latest work, *Shadow and Fog*, in which he appears with

Mia Farrow. American actor John Malkovich and pop singer Madonna.

"It's a very comic film in black and white, set in the 1920s in a European country. Madonna has a very small part. We thought of her because she seemed perfect for the role of a trapeze artist in a circus," he said.

Not content with his success to date, Allen has one ambition: "I often dream of making a big musical like *My Fair Lady* or *Gigi*. But it's more fantasy than possible reality."

"Instead I'll do more of my usual films on my idiosyncrasies ... the kind that in America appeals to a small audience. Luckily my audience is bigger in Europe," he said.



Woody Allen

Fame comes late to Portugal's grand old novelist

By Judith Matloff

Reuters

LISBON — His works have been translated into 25 languages, an Italian opera has been based on one of his novels and another book is being adapted into a Spanish film.

But ask Jose Saramago why he is Portugal's best-known — and perhaps only internationally known — living writer and he shakes his head wearily.

"I'm not a genius," he says. "I just do my work."

Since Portugal's 1974 revolution ended 50 years of dictatorship and censorship, the 68-year-old Communist militant has emerged as the country's literary ambassador.

For the past 10 years, he has won a world following for his lyrical novels that weave fantasy, Portuguese history and attacks on political repression and poverty.

He has been translated into nearly all European languages, decorated with France's Order of Arts and Letters and tipped as a potential Nobel Prize winner.

Perhaps the sweetest glory came last year at Milan's La Scala, where the opera *Blimunda* based on his most famous work *Memorial do Convento* (1982, translated as *Baltasar And Blimunda*) won praise from critics.

Italian composer Azio Corghi had fallen in love with the tale of two lovers trying to escape the inquisition with a flying machine. He captured

the fantasy with extravagant sets.

The magic realism of the book — and others like *The Year Of The Death Of Ricardo Reis* (1984), a surreal story of a doctor-poet and fascism's rise in 1936 — have led to comparisons with Latin American authors such as Gabriel Garcia Marquez, of Colombia.

But Saramago denies there is an influence and says old masters Cervantes and Gogol impressed him more.

"European literature doesn't need to borrow magic realism and fantasy from Latin America. Any country can have its own magic realism roots," Saramago says.

He attributes his sympathy for the underdog — characters include chambermaids,

peasants and victims of persecution — to humble roots as the son of rural workers, and to more than a decade with Portugal's hard-line Communist Party.

"I do not separate the Jose Saramago who writes books from the Jose Saramago who is a political activist from the Jose Saramago who has a family. When I write I do not write to serve ideology or political activism. But there is a certain social consciousness which appears in my work."

He is the party's candidate for a Lisbon parliamentary seat in October elections but says he would not take office if he won. "I don't want a political life, it makes too many demands. I am a writer who intervenes into politics sometimes."

He writes, ideally for three or four hours a day, in the peace of his modest Lisbon flat. It is crammed with books, ceramic handicrafts and prints.

All over the living room are photographs of his second wife Pilar, the young Spanish journalist he married five years ago.

She dashes in briefly to say Spanish film director Mario Camus telephoned about his adaptation of *Levantado do Chao*, Saramago's 1980 novel about workers in the poor Alentejo region.

Such recognition has come late in life for Saramago. He was born in the village of Azinhaga in the central Ribatejo region on Nov. 16, 1922 and brought up in Lisbon. He worked as a skilled

metal worker, translator, editor and journalist before dedicating himself solely to literature from 1976, two years after the revolution.

His first novel, *Terra do Pecado*, was published when he was 25. It was 30 years later, in 1977, before a second novel *Manual de Pintura E Caligrafia* came out and critics began to take notice.

Since then he has honed his fantastical style with *Jangada de Pedra* (1986), an allegory on isolationism in which Iberia physically breaks away from Europe, and *Historia do Cerco de Lisboa* (1989) set in medieval Lisbon.

He is now writing a novel, *Evangelho Segundo Jesus Cristo*, that he hopes to finish by September.

Italian-American makes a comeback for the jazz organ

By Charles J. Gans
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Scramble the plots of *Amadeus* and *Rocky* and you might end up with the unlikely story of jazz organist Joey DeFrancesco.

DeFrancesco was playing the organ at age 5, composed his first tunes when he was 7, and toured Europe with Miles Davis as a 17-year-old high school senior. Though only 20, he has recorded three albums for Columbia Records.

DeFrancesco is the first serious young contender in years for the jazz organ title held for decades by Jimmy Smith.

"Jimmy Smith was really the big innovator who played the bebop stuff on the organ. I love Jimmy Smith," said DeFrancesco, who was visiting New York with his father recently. "There's definitely influences in my style ... But I play the organ like nobody has ever played it."

DeFrancesco's instrument of choice is the Hammond B3 organ, which went out of production in 1975 when he was only four years old.

In the 1950s and 1960s, jazz organists with their Hammond B3s ruled the land, leading small combos in numerous clubs and lounges.

But young musicians in the 1970s and 1980s forsook the booming sound of the 425-pound (192-kilogram) Hammond B3 for lightweight electronic keyboards and synthesizers.

Now, DeFrancesco is helping take the B3 off the endangered species list.

"You can't beat the sound of the B3," said DeFrancesco. "It just has all those emotions in it. It's got little bits of every instrument in it. It's like having a whole orchestra at your fingertips."

The young musician, an Italian-American from Philadelphia, at first glance seems an unlikely successor to the older generation of black groove organ players, but he knows how to get down and dirty.

"I like stuff that really makes your foot tap. I like to play blues — anything that really grooves and swings with a lot of fire," he said.

His tastes are well reflected in his latest album, *Part III*, which includes tunes by Davis, Thelouious Monk and Jackie McLean, as well as his own blues-steeped originals, played by members of his working band.

On several tracks, DeFrancesco also plays a muted miles Davis-like trumpet or acoustic piano.

The album's finale is DeFrancesco's earthy "Gutbucket Blues," on which Joey exchanges heated organ lines with his dad, John, in what jazz writer Leonard Feather called the first father-and-son keyboard recording.

"It was great. It really put

the goosebumps on me," said John DeFrancesco, who works as an electrician after spending years leading organ combos in Philadelphia-area clubs.

Joey credits his father as his biggest influence. "You can't be better off than having a dad who plays the same instrument that you do," he said. "The music that I heard from the time I was born was jazz."

As a toddler, Joey could not be separated from his toy piano. Once during a month-long break from his club dates, his father took his organ home. Five-year-old Joey couldn't keep his hands off it.

"I would come home from work and he'd be standing at the front door waiting for me to turn the organ on," recalled the elder DeFrancesco.

At 7, Joey sat in with his father at a club date for the first time and wrote his first tune, a Bossa Nova dedicated to his mother, Laurene.

Every day, father would teach son something new on the organ. Joey listened to hundreds of jazz records in his father's collection.

When Joey was 10, his father insisted that he study classical piano and theory after school. He also attended a high school with a special emphasis on performing arts.

In 1987, his school jazz trio appeared on a local Philadelphia television show the same day Miles Davis was a guest. The trumpeter was so taken by DeFrancesco's organ solo that he took his phone number.

In the fall of 1988, DeFrancesco took his school books with him to Europe as he toured for four months playing keyboards in Davis' band. He played on one track on Davis' album *Amandla*.

Earlier, in November 1987, DeFrancesco tied for third place in the first Thelonious Monk International Jazz Piano Competition in Washington, D.C.

Columbia producer George Butler heard him there, and signed him to the label in early 1988.

DeFrancesco's debut album, *All Of Me*, was released in 1989, and his second album, *Where Were You?*, came out last year. The organist has also appeared on albums by Houston Person and Grover Washington Jr.

DeFrancesco has been leading his own band since March 1989. Its current lineup includes trumpeter Jim Henry, tenor saxophonist Tony Malaby, guitarist Paul Bollenback and drummer Byron "Woogie" Landham.

In July, his quintet will be touring Europe for the first time, performing at jazz festivals in Vienna (July 6); Montreux, Switzerland (July 8); The Hague, Holland (July 12); and Vitoria, Spain (July 15).

German museum hopes Yeltsin can return stolen art works

By Tom Heneghan

Reuters

BREMEN, Germany — Boris Yeltsin may not know it but he could become a leading patron of the arts in Germany overnight without spending a ruble.

All the new president of the Russian Republic has to do is persuade a Moscow Museum to return some works of art to Bremen.

The Kunsthalle Museum here is waging a David-and-Goliath battle to recover 362 drawings and watercolours carried off at the end of World War II and long feared lost forever.

Its joy two years ago at locating the pictures — by artists ranging from Duerer to Van Gogh — has since given way to simmering frustration at the secrecy and

confusion blocking their return.

"The situation in Russia is chaotic ... we have almost nobody we can talk to there," Kunsthalle Director Siegfried Salzmann lamented.

"With Yeltsin in power, maybe everything will be different. Maybe Yeltsin can play a role," he said.

Bremen's drawings, part of a vast art haul carried off by Soviet troops in 1945, are among the first to be located now that the shrouds of cold war secrecy are being lifted.

Among the other treasures believed to be stored away in Soviet museum cellars are paintings from Hitler's private collection and the gold of King Priam of Troy.

Germany and the Soviet Union have agreed to discuss exchanging stolen works of art but the Bonn Foreign Ministry warns the talks will be long and complex.

The centrepiece of Bremen's lost treasure is a collection of 28 drawings and watercolours by 16th century German artist Albrecht Duerer, including one self-portrait in an "ecce homo" pose making him look like a suffering Christ.

The other works include drawings by Raphael, Rembrandt, Goya, Rubens, Delacroix, Manet and Monet as well as the only known drawing by Van Gogh's painting *Starry Night*.

"They are priceless — not even five Japanese insurance companies together would have enough funds to buy them," said Andreas Kreul, an art historian at the Kunsthalle.

Bremen's battle to get the pictures back is getting to be almost as much of a drama as the story of how they found their way to Moscow in the first place.

During the war, the drawings were stored at Karnzow Castle north of Berlin to protect them from the heavy allied bombing that Bremen — and its art museum — suffered.

In the confusing days after the fall of the Third Reich, soldiers and plunderers made off with thousands of works of art, many of which are still officially listed as lost.

But a Soviet officer and art historian, Viktor Baldin, found the Bremen drawings. He took them to Moscow and banded them over to the museum for Russian architecture.

They stayed hidden at the museum even after Mr. Baldin became its director and began asking Soviet leaders to return them.

In 1989, Mr. Baldin finally gave up his discreet campaign and announced during a private trip to Bremen that he was the one who had taken the drawings away and now wanted to return them.

The city invited Mr. Baldin, now 72, to a local clinic for an ear operation he needed. The Kunsthalle began work on a catalogue in Russian for an exhibition of the pictures that it wants to hold in the Soviet Union.

"If Baldin hadn't saved these things, looters would have got them and they would be scattered over the whole world," Mr. Salzmann said.

"But it's not easy to turn Baldin's wish into reality," said Dieter Oppen of Bremen's Cultural Affairs Department. "We're still trying to find someone to negotiate with."

'The empress of African song' plans to end exile

By Donna Bryson

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — South African singer Miriam Makeba opens her newest album with an exile's lament — but says her decades of living abroad finally are nearing an end.

Ms. Makeba, who for more than 30 years has championed the anti-apartheid cause from her artist's platform, plans to return to live in South Africa by December.

"I think I have tried my best from outside to tell the world that we have a problem," she told the Associated Press. "And now that I can go home, I can do concrete things — help the children, help the elderly. The fact that my country is in a rotten state doesn't mean I should stay away."

The song *I Still Long For You*, by South African composer Victor Masando, "expressed what I feel, having been to so many countries — I could fill a wall with the names — and missing home," Ms. Makeba said in a recent telephone interview from her

current home in Brussels. She said the song is one of her favorites on *Eyes On Tomorrow*, an album she recorded in South Africa. It was released on June 11 on the Polydor label.

"I've been singing that song on stage for two years," she said in a soft voice that nonetheless was as compelling as her powerful singing.

"In Germany the first time I sang it at a big arena in Berlin, all you could see were torches waving back and forth with the rhythm. I guess I sing it with a lot of feeling."

In Johannesburg, she worked with musicians who "understood the music I was doing," she said. "I think there was less explaining to do. They understand even the lyrics, which I sing in African languages. I didn't have to translate for them... as I usually have to do with my musicians."

She writes in her 1987 memoirs that friends and relatives who first encouraged her to perform compared her voice to that of a nightingale. The young nightingale went on to become "mama Africa"

and "the empress of African song," titles that recognise the emphasis she has placed on traditional songs as well as the work of contemporary African composers.

The multilingual *Eyes On Tomorrow* includes *Vukani* (Wake Up), a song in her native Xhosa written by noted South African trumpeter Hugh Masekela.

"It's a plea to our people to stop calling each other names, to stop killing each other, that we must begin to hold hands to build a nation," she said.

She blends a traditional Xhosa song, *Thulasizwe* (Nation, Stop Weeping) with Bob Dylan's *I Shall Be Released* in a duet with American singer Nina Simone. Ms. Makeba said both songs speak of "Breaking through."

The recording sessions in Johannesburg brought Ms. Makeba together with several old friends — Ms. Simone as well as Masekela. Ms. Makeba's former husband, who plays fiddle on *Vukani*, and Dizzy Gillespie contribute a smooth vocal to a

duet of Paolo Conte's romantic *Don't Break My Heart*.

Ms. Makeba and Gillespie are preparing to tour with a show that begins in Europe and reaches New York in August.

She still sings with the sweet, clear voice of the young woman who in the 1950s introduced American and European audiences to the "click sounds" of the Xhosa language. And at 59, she also has developed a jazzy growl and an accomplished actress's grasp of emotion.

Ms. Makeba left South Africa to perform in Europe and the United States in 1959 after her brief appearance — she sang two songs — in the film *Come Back, Africa* introduced her to a wider audience.

Though she was not at first politically outspoken, her growing prominence as an artist seems to have raised suspicion in Pretoria. In 1960, when she tried to fly home for her mother's funeral, her passport was revoked. The government offered no explanation for the action.

In 1963, she appeared before the U.N. Special Committee on Apartheid to call for an international boycott on South Africa. Pretoria responded as banning her records.

Since becoming president in 1989, South African President F.W. De Klerk has reopened the doors to many exiles as he attempts to abolish apartheid and end his country's isolation. Ms. Makeba was allowed to return briefly last June, when she visited her mother's grave.

She began work on *Eyes On Tomorrow* early this year. While in South Africa to make the album, she gave two concerts in Johannesburg.

"It was like a revival," she said of the April performances. "My music having been banned for so long, that people still felt the same way about me was too much for me. I just went home and I cried."

De Klerk has overseen the dismantling of laws segregating neighbourhoods, hospitals, property ownership,

parks, beaches and many other facilities. In late June, the South African parliament repealed the law that classified all citizens by race.

Last year, De Klerk legalised the main anti-apartheid group, the African National Congress, and freed its leader, Nelson Mandela. But the government and the ANC still have not sat down for substantial negotiations on a new constitution that would give blacks a say in national affairs.

"We still don't have the vote, so I don't see what change people are talking about," Ms. Makeba said. "No change has been made in Soweto. Maybe there has been change on paper, but the people have not felt any change."

Ms. Makeba says she will work with anti-apartheid groups in South Africa. But her reasons for returning seem less political than personal.

"I'm just happy to go home, to be around the places I've known as a child. I've been cheated of that for so long."

New alternatives found for abdominal surgery

By Dr. Khalil Zayadin

GALLBLADDER disease continues to be one of the most common digestive disorders seen by physicians not only in Jordan but all over the world. Approximately 500,000 cholecystectomies (removal of gallbladder through surgery) are performed each year in the United States. After conventional major abdominal surgery, patients experience considerable discomfort and their recovery time is lengthy. The resultant cost in total health care dollars is enormous. These factors have prompted scientists in recent years to pursue alternatives to operative cholecystectomy. Procedures such as lithotripsy, percutaneous stone extraction, and stone dissolution are now being offered to more and more patients. The number of patients for whom these alternative therapeutic modalities are suitable, however, remains limited. Furthermore, the recurrence rate for cholelithiasis (stone gallbladder) following successful non-operative therapy is significant. Therefore, it is doubtful that such non-surgical approaches will have any significant impact on the reduction of health care expenses.

Another alternative to conventional surgery and open cholecystectomy has been developed — Endo-cholecystectomy. This technique offers a number of advantages over the standard, open approach. Both hospital stay and post-operative recovery period are greatly reduced. Approximately 15-20 per cent of patients who undergo Endo-cholecystectomy are discharged on the day of surgery; the rest are hospitalised for only one night. The majority of patients are able to return to full activity within 5-7 days.

By contrast, patients who undergo routine open cholecystectomy require 5-7 days in the hospital and three to six weeks absence from work. The reduced hospital stay and shorter recovery time following Endo-cholecystectomy is expected to have a tremendous economic impact. In addition, patient discomfort and cosmetic disfigurement are dramatically reduced following Endo-cholecystectomy.

Endoscopic removal of the gallbladder has now been performed on several thousand patients worldwide and the early experience indicates that this operation, when performed by fully trained doctors is safe. It is applicable to about 80-90 per cent of patients with symptomatic gallstone disease and carries significant advantages in terms of early recovery and absence of wound complications.

We in Jordan are now in a position to perform this operation safely in a couple of hospitals. About 20 operations using the described endoscopic technique have been carried out successfully so far and without complications. Still the decision whether a stone gallbladder should be removed endoscopically or by the open traditional method remains to be taken after careful evaluation of each single patient.

The writer is a general surgeon.

Brain 'compensates' for injury by reorganisation

By Paul Recer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Research using monkeys that were the focus of a decade-old animal rights battle has shown that the brain compensates for injury by reorganising itself far more extensively than previously thought possible, researchers say.

Tim P. Pons, the lead researcher in the study, said that the finding means it may be possible some day to train healthy portions of the brain to take over functions lost to stroke or head injury.

"Now we're finding out that... it's not a fixed system," said Pons, a National Institute of Mental Health researcher.

A report on the study was published in the latest edition of the weekly journal *Science*.

The research was conducted on four of 17 Macaque monkeys that in 1981 were seized by police after an animal-rights organisation claimed the animals had been mistreated by federally-financed researchers. Later the monkeys passed into federal custody. They came to be known as the Silver Spring monkeys after the town in Maryland where the research lab was located.

Animal rights groups, led by the People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), conducted a long legal battle attempting to gain custody of the animals. Last year, PETA attempted to block a National Institute of Health (NIH) plan to conduct brain research as two of the monkeys were being

ethanised. The organisation lost an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court in April and NIH scientists conducted the experiments.

In research more than 12 years ago, arm nerves in the monkeys had been severed at the spine. Pons said this made the Macaque's arms numb from the shoulder to the hand. This was done in both arms for one of the monkeys and in one on the other three.

As a result of the severed nerves, Pons said a portion of the brain cortex that usually functions for the arms received no sensory inputs. The purpose of the new research, he said, was to determine if a brain cortex deprived of sensations would change over a long period of time.

"What was thought would

happen is that the region of the brain would just lie dormant," said Pons. "But what we found is that the region had reorganised to represent another body part."

Portions of the brain that once detected only tactile sensations from the arms instead were found to have "rewired themselves" into detecting sensations from the face and chin.

Pons said the research was conducted by placing the animals into deep coma with drugs. Their skulls were then opened and microelectrodes capable of detecting the faint electrical signals of brain activity were placed in the portions of the cortex that would normally feel sensations from the arm.

Points on the face and

trunk of each animal were then stimulated. The electrodes registered electrical impulses from the stimulation of the face, but not of the trunk.

This showed, said Pons, that "one portion of the brain that normally processes information for the hand, for instance, can just as easily process information for the face.... If you brought the right information, it could process any sensory information from any body part."

He said "if you know how the brain reorganisation works" it may be possible to "enhance" the process and cause healthy portions of the brain to take up the work previously performed by the damaged part of the brain.

A statement from the Physicians Committee for

Responsible Medicine, one of the animal rights groups opposed to the monkey brain experiment, said the work "had little resemblance to a proper scientific study."

"It was a poorly and sloppily proposed experiment," said Dr. Neal Barnard, a Washington psychiatrist and spokesman for the Physicians Committee. He said it was "complete nonsense that this could lead to treatment for stroke victims. It has nothing to do with treatment."

The research was conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institutes of Health and Vanderbilt University.

Science, which published the study, is the journal of the National Association for the Advancement of Science.

By Nancy Benac
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Severe headaches afflict millions of people whose suffering often is underestimated, misunderstood and mistreated, according to doctors at the largest conference ever convened on the subject.

More than 1,000 experts from 43 nations were gathered recently for the International Headache Congress, whose organisers said head pain doesn't get the respect it deserves as a serious ailment.

"Fifty to 70 million Americans experience severe headache, which may account for more missed days of work and more visits to physicians than any other condition," said Dr. Joel Saper, president of the American Association for the Study of Headache, the host organisation for the congress.

He said no other serious medical condition is more shrouded in myth and misconception, its victims "shunted down an assembly line" of inappropriate treatments ranging from nose surgery to allergy shots.

But Dr. Saper said there is growing recognition of headaches as a legitimate medical problem rather than an excuse to miss work or a target for jokes.

"Headache is emerging to join the ranks of what society now accepts as legitimate illnesses," he said. "It should no longer be an embarrassment to have a headache." Survey results released at

the conference showed migraine headaches affect 14.6 per cent of women and 4.8 per cent of men in the United States, with an average of 12 to 15 attacks a year. More than 80 per cent of people with severe migraines are temporarily disabled, some of them requiring bedrest, researchers reported.

Another study found that "quality of life" for migraine sufferers may be even lower than for people suffering from serious medical conditions such as diabetes, arthritis, hypertension and gastrointestinal disorders.

"Although migraineurs may be physically able to function, they function be-

haviorally at a level well below their physical capabilities," the study by J.T. Osterhaus said. "These findings suggest the burden of this illness is probably greater than previously anticipated."

Dr. K.M.A. Welch, president of the International Headache Society, said medical science is making strides in understanding the causes of headaches and treating severe forms such as migraines and cluster headaches.

But he said more needs to be done to educate the public about headaches and more sophisticated research is needed to better understand head pain and its implica-

tions.

For example, he said, one recent study detected a high rate of suicide among migraine sufferers whose headaches are preceded by aura in which the patient sees colours, flashing lights and bright spots. The higher suicide rate was present even in migraine sufferers who were not depressed, he said.

Doctors use a variety of drugs to both prevent headaches from occurring and to abort them or lessen their severity when they do occur, conference participants said. Patients also learn how to avoid possible headache triggers, which may include strong smells, bright lights

and certain foods. Dr. Neil Raskin, chairman of the congress' scientific programme, said that while there are promising studies on the new drug Sumatriptan, which is expected to reach the U.S. market in 1993, "We're not waiting with bated breath until '93 to do something about headache. We can do very good things right now."

Sumatriptan, awaiting approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, is injected in patients to relieve the pain of migraines.

Dr. Niran Mathew, chairman of the congress' organising committee, said conference participants hope to spread the word that "severe head pain is not a reflection of a poor character or a desire to miss work."

"To solve the problem of headache, we study the brain itself. To help patients, we also need to solve the problem of misinformation," he said.

Headaches often mistreated, misunderstood — experts

Weekend Crossword

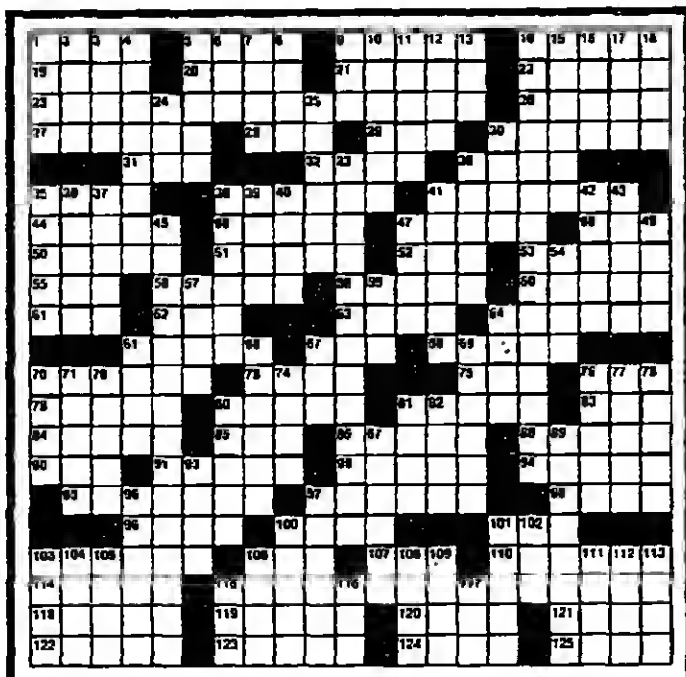
THE WAY TO GO
By Dorothy B. Martin

ACROSS
1. Country
5. Bedouin
9. Weight watcher
14. Pub measure
18. Making
20. Horded garment
21. Gown material
22. Cantor
23. Gloria Swanson
26. Football Hall of Fame's Greasy
27. Capitol Hill group
28. Island garden
29. de France
30. Moved sunrises
31. Out of one's mind
32. Ruse, sea
34. Unrest
35. Soccer great
38. Port
41. Petitions

44. Ingot
46. — Gay
47. Dyer prize
48. Western Indian
50. Actor who played Gen. Patton
51. Was rich
52. Punter
53. Bureaucracy
54. Downy St. number
55. Moon valley
58. Maroon & life
60. Sphere of action
61. Luster to DOE
62. Time before a holiday
63. Rival to the
64. Unrest
65. Soccer great
68. Port
41. Petitions

66. Sap
70. Cautions
73. Western advance
75. Built — china
76. Barbara —
79. Bulby drinks
80. Mott
81. Confused
83. A Galor
84. Trend south of
85. Regret
86. Home — brave
88. Autistic
90. TV's Major
91. Coast under
93. One who quotes
94. Cream of the crop
95. Turn over a —

97. Atlantic and Pacific
98. Shander
99. Mort
100. Lord of love
101. Crap
102. Cuban VIP
106. Matus
107. Pop joint
110. Awaken feelings
114. Lesson
115. Michael Landon
116. Laid explosives
117. Islamic Supreme
118. Laid explosives
119. Islamic Supreme
120. Reverberate
121. Actress Moore
122. Bias, emperor
123. Office worker
124. Oskart
125. Declared



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. My stocks have given me no lack of variety: two go-go, a few only so-so, the rest no-go.
2. Talk may be cheap, but some friendly folks are such speed-thrills!
3. Every kind of man may be his own peculiar architect, but some have flawed blueprints to work from.
4. Lone loon's maniacal cry scares my tiny tot.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. BFT JYMM-RPSSNJ EGTINT NJYTNJ
LGIU KTYPSMNOO UNGTO STUPIO SP OTFR
ONNJMMNOO BFLNNTGIGSNO.

—By Loretta M. Ouzan

2. JER OPRAOTABOEX OBY LEZY TSCP
YEK VED KRAO DRKJ BBVEXO KE VRL
CRYO.

—By Earl Ireland

3. GIV CLKY PURAX DOGLEQ QDYV RAREZOR
QUWLKV. RELAX ILE IDLO ENODP UA D
ENLYVO CVW.

—By Lois H. Jones

4. UFRUDA WBSIGHAWHA. EB WKOEM. SIGMY
SUUM PU EL "YUKE ER APU PUWA IS
AWFUL."

—By Ed Reddemon

DOWN
1. Deloit
2. Chills and fever
3. Actor Sean
4. Big Bird's place
5. Perfumed
6. Sleak from
7. Army deserter
8. Azure
9. Vane letters
10. Root out
11. In any way
12. Modern money
13. Terminate
14. Part of a famous address
15. Think
16. Brimack's place
17. Mah jongg piece
18. Go to — (Idiom)

24. Schedule abate
25. Likely
26. River into the
27. Passover
33. Hope-Crosby film
34. Exchange
35. Speechless
36. Man with a mink
37. Jungle kids
38. Doctor
39. Indigo plant
40. Function
41. Whole
42. King
43. Middle
45. William Holden
47. Leagues
48. Notable periods
54. Elvis — Presley
57. Singer Bar

56. Aware of
64. Rational
65. Haul
66. Allow up
67. Devoured
69. Star parts
70. Sch. type
71. Miller's
72. Omit a syllable
73. Grows oker
76. Refute
77. Broadway musical
78. Prefigured
80. Of a geologic epoch
81. — boy
82. At that time
83. Possessions
89. — lead to Rome

92. Flight path
96. More most
97. Founding
98. Rose's love
100. Great golf score
101. Western resort
102. Crude metal
103. Brocade
104. Rose's love
105. Dune stuff
106. Gainer
108. Inspects
109. Engrave
111. Eye part
112. Unwieldy
113. Camelot
114. —
115. Possessions
116. Question word
117. Exclamation

Diagramless

18 X 19, By James Barrick

ACROSS
1. Between R and V
2. Curved line
3. Blueprint
4. Gehrig's
5. One for
6. Temporary use
7. Young bear
11. Legal document
13. Show feeling on stage
15. Memorable period

16. Plant and —
17. Powdered residue
18. Passport
19. Endorsement
22. Gave the once-over
23. Butternut
24. Refrigerator's predecessor
26. Broad streets
28. Does a farm job
30. Jackrabbits
32. Large amount

34. Garden tool
37. Employer
38. Brooks & Gibson
39. Curved letter
41. Auction
42. Threaten
44. Eastern servant
45. Quail
46. Dwelling place
47. Public speakers
51. USA word
53. Zero in tennis
54. Black

57. "God's Little —"
58. Links item
59. Moved smoothly
60. That man's
61. La —, Milan
62. Fanny
63. Sizable roll of money
64. — go well
65. Immate
66. Great black and
69. Affirmative
69. Before

DOWN
1. Snow vehicle
2. Light brown
3. Photographic error
4. Niche
5. Put to light
6. Solid figure
7. Something that gratifies
11. Create
12. Clap of rock
14. Spring time

17. Brewed beverages
18. Capitol Hill person abate
19. Dwelling
21. Assist
22. Sunset
25. Item for rowing
26. Hippodrome
27. Fitzgerald the singer

29. Gracious birds
30. Orons
31. "Pearl Gym"
32. Chirac
33. Have on
34. Actor Wallace
36. Writer Deighton
38. Broadening, publishing etc.
40. "Thou — not."
43. Swindle
45. Not excessive

48. Wander
49. Certain articles
50. Digi
52. — go bright
54. Get away
56. Swords
61. Great black and
62. Yield by treaty
65. Cup handle

If in vitro fertilisation does not work in 7 tries, it never will

By Randi Hutter Epstein
The Associated Press

PARIS — If in vitro fertilisation does not work after seven attempts, it probably never will, researchers have told an international conference on the subject.

That discouraging word at the World Congress on In Vitro Fertilisation and Assisted Procreation comes on top of a report saying that most infertile couples who turn to science for help cannot expect to deliver a healthy infant.

In the latest report, Dr. Hilton Kort of Reproductive Biology Associates in Atlanta, said more than 80 per cent of 173 women who got pregnant using in vitro fertilisation did so within two tries. None got pregnant after seven attempts.

"We would strongly advise against trying more than seven times, unless new technology is tried," said Kort.

He said it isn't worth the stress and expense.

In vitro fertilisation mates the egg and sperm outside of the body and inserts the fertilised egg back into the womb. Nearly 40,000 "test tube" babies have been born since the technique was first used successfully in 1978.

Dr. Alan Decherney, head of Yale University's division of reproductive endocrinology, agreed with Kort's findings. He said the chance of getting pregnant after seven failed attempts is "pretty slim."

Decherney said that so many failed attempts points to other problems for infertility — perhaps some fault in the woman's eggs, or some other factor.

Between 1985 and 1989, Kort's clinic collected more than 1,000 eggs for in vitro fertilisation.

Among 138 women, 80 got pregnant after one attempt, 33 after two attempts, 11

after three attempts, and 14 women got pregnant who tried between four and seven times.

In a report to the conference, researchers said a study of 469 fertility centres in 24 countries showed that no more than 20 per cent of couples trying to conceive with medical help have healthy babies.

"No one can deny efficacy is low, from 5 per cent to 20 per cent depending on the study," said Dr. Marsden Wagner, director of maternal and child health at the World Health Organisation.

He appealed for international standards to monitor fertility clinics.

But Dr. Robert Edwards, professor at Cambridge University and the leading scientist involved with the birth of the first test tube baby in 1978, said: "Standards are the enemy of progress outside a certain minimal level. It's the variation that allows

us to make new discoveries."

Assisted procreation refers to any kind of treatment used to boost fertility, including artificial insemination, injecting sperm into the cervix, and in vitro fertilisation.

Newborns conceived in vitro have a higher rate of neonatal death and are more likely to suffer from low birth weight.

For women, there is a rare, but real life-threatening risk from the drugs used to increase fertility. Occasionally, women treated with such drugs suffer from lethal fluid retention and kidney failure.

According to international statistics, about a fourth of the pregnancies end in miscarriages.

A reassuring note to prospective parents is that fetal malformations, such as "down's syndrome," are no more common among babies conceived in vitro than among those conceived normally.

Cholera spread points to broader Latin American economic crisis

By Andrew Hurst
Reuters

CARACAS, Venezuela — A cholera epidemic sweeping Latin America has focused attention on the region's lamentable state of health care.

A decade-long debt crisis has drained government reserves, leaving little cash available to put things right.

But economists say the disease is also exposing deeper economic trouble and that government incompetence is partly to blame for the chronic inadequacy of health and sewage systems.

"To blame the cholera

epidemic on the debt crisis is an exaggeration," said a Peruvian economist at an international organisation in Washington.

"It's basically down to bad economic management and the debt problem is a component of that."

Rampant inflation, ballooning deficits and crushing debts have forced governments drastically to pare spending on hospitals, sewage treatment and health care.

"By the time the cholera epidemic arrived, it found a government unable to spend a penny on health, education or practically anything," said

the economist, who asked not to be named.

Over 2,000 people have died since the epidemic broke out in Peru in February.

The Washington-based Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO) estimates governments in Latin America would have to spend \$200 billion to make water supplies safe and ensure a minimum standard of public health care for all.

"That estimate is based on what is needed for the health infrastructure and water systems to get to a point where cholera would not be transmitted," said David Brand-

ling Bennet, an epidemiologist at PAHO.

The cholera virus, whose main symptom is violent diarrhoea, is passed on through drinking water mixed with sewage.

By the end of May cholera had killed 1,726 people in Peru, 343 in Ecuador and 28 in Colombia, according to PAHO figures.

"We believe that about 190 million people in Latin America lack proper access to health care," said Cesar Viera, a Brazilian physician at PAHO. "That number seems to be increasing."

U.N. envoy lauds Jordan's stand

(Continued from page 1)

was described as "his pale role and apologetic statements." From what he has said, his mission is to collect facts while the U.N. has been filled with "lies and lies about the Middle East," said the Arabic-language Al-Dustour daily newspaper in an editorial Wednesday.

Mr. Brunner said that the fact that the U.N. has not taken an independent approach to Middle East peace efforts does in no way diminish the importance of the resolutions adopted by the Security Council.

But "the U.N. does not have the force or the material resources to implement (the resolutions)," he said. "The countries (U.N. members) have to implement them."

Assessing the outcome of his talks in Israel and Jordan before proceeding to Syria, Mr. Brunner said he found that there were two

sets of obstacles facing the peace process.

The first obstacle, he said, "is procedural," in that while the Arab side wishes to have a peace conference the Israeli side insists on having bilateral talks with its Arab neighbours.

"The other obstacle, which is of substance, is the goal of any talks," he said noting that the Arab and Israeli sides have their own interpretations of Security Council Resolution 242 — the key U.N. document which the Arab World says should serve as the basis for any peace settlement with Israel.

Jordan's stand vis-a-vis the peace efforts, Mr. Brunner said, "is very consistent, reasonable and well meaning."

"The Jordanian government has a constructive way of looking at things and it is contributing a lot in the peace process," said the envoy.

U.S. insists Iraq is hiding data

(Continued from page 1)

when Iraq had declared all its research facilities to the IAEA, as a signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, Israel in 1981 bombed a reactor.

"Although the activities of this stage were declared and clear, Israel aborted these endeavours by destruction of the 17 July reactor and its equipment and installations on June 7, 1981," the letter said.

Then, during the Gulf war, it said, sites containing nuclear fuel were bombed by the United States "disregarding the hazards that might afflict the civilian population and the local environment."

The letter said President George Bush in November 1990 said Iraq would be capable of manufacturing a nuclear device within two months and therefore "was obliged to wage a war as soon as possible in order to destroy the Iraqi nuclear capabilities before it could manufacture such a weapon."

State Department spokeswoman Tutwiler said the United States believed there were still discrepancies in the documents but gave no explanation except to say "we're not buying that."

Mr. Hussein also said most of the devices were destroyed by Iraq because the Security Council had ordered Baghdad to pay for the destruction of its own weapons and it could not afford the U.N. tab.

He disclosed that Iraq had used three methods to enrich uranium isotopes: electromagnetic, centrifugal and chemical separation.

In a separate list Iraq revealed it had 30 calculators, World War II electromagnetic devices used to enrich uranium, in various states of destruction, diplomats said.

Iraq provided the information after heavy pressure from the Security Council to explain why a U.N. inspection team was barred two weeks ago from looking at what it suspected were calculators.

EC links trade benefits to peace

(Continued from page 1)

the occupied territories.

"We have discussed this with the foreign minister today and we have an agreement but we will not announce the details until tomorrow morning," Mr. Pierini said. The agreement must also be approved by Defence Minister Moshé Arens, he said.

The EC has allocated 70 million ECUs (\$79 million) to Palestinians in the occupied territories this year. 60 million ECUs (\$68 million) of it in emergency aid for housing, education, agriculture and hospitals.

The Palestinian economy, battered by the uprising, suffered a double blow during the Gulf war — decline in remittances from relatives working in the Gulf and loss of jobs in Israel.

Foreign relief workers in the occupied territories say some 30 per cent of the Palestinian workforce in the occupied territories is unemployed but in the squalid refugee camps the rate has soared to 70 per cent.

Slovenia votes to accept peace plan

(Continued from page 1)

EC foreign ministers agreed Wednesday to send a mission of up to 50 unarmed observers from EC countries to Yugoslavia to monitor the precarious peace process.

Croatia fears a federal army assault within days to crush its independence attempt. Information Minister Hrvoye Hrtec said Wednesday.

Describing the situation in the rebel republic as "highly explosive," he urged the rapid deployment of EC observers to deter the army, which is led by officers from the rival republic of Serbia.

"All indications are that Croatia is seriously threatened," Mr. Hrtec told a news conference in Zagreb. "We expect an army aggression within five to 10 days which will be more extensive in scale than in Slovenia."

Croatia's drive for independence is opposed by most of the republic's Serbian minority of 600,000 and by Serbian politicians who claim part of its territory.

The conflict is sharpened by centuries of animosity and bloodshed between Yugoslav's two largest nationalities.

Christians' status in Kuwait boosted by Gulf war

By Michael Kuli
Reuter

KUWAIT — The only cross raised in Muslim Kuwait is the red cross of the international relief movement, but the emirate's Christians have gained new confidence from the role of Western troops in the Gulf war.

Visible symbols of Christianity are still banned and Kuwait's 70,000 Christians celebrate mass on Friday, the Muslim holy day, instead of Sunday.

But they feel the role of the U.S.-led allies in driving out Iraq's occupying army has raised their status after years of keeping their faith discreetly behind closed doors.

"Kuwaitis respected us more after the Gulf war because they said it was mainly the Western Christian countries that liberated Kuwait from the occupation of neighbouring Muslim Iraq," Catholic priest Maroun Al Saabi told Reuters.

"We feel much better with the Americans and Westerners here than we used to in the past," he said.

Mohammad Al Ramadi, a 40-year-old Kuwaiti car salesman, said he had hated the Christians in the past and wanted them thrown out of the country. But this year he changed his mind.

"I found out after the Gulf war that Christians were not as bad as I thought. They were not crusaders who wanted to take our country and wealth... on the contrary they were our saviours," he said.

Until the war, Kuwait was quite unaccustomed to the sight of crosses of any kind, even the

type painted on the side of medical vehicles used by the Western military.

Even the presence of the International Committee of the Red Cross — in Kuwait to oversee the post-war provisions of the Geneva conventions — is unusual because Kuwait's associate organisation is the Red Crescent.

Saabi, a Lebanese, was speaking after Friday morning mass at a Greek Catholic church in Kuwait city's affluent Salmiyah district.

Like ancient Christians, Mr. Saabi and his congregation gather every week in a converted house which serves as their church.

From the outside, it looks like an ordinary two-storey villa. There are no church bells and no cross on the roof.

But inside coloured icons hang on the walls, candles flicker on the wooden altar and the smell of incense fills the air.

"We don't mind worshipping in houses. The most important thing for us is to practise our faith and live in peace, and these two things are available in Kuwait," said George Haddad, a 50-year-old businessman who has lived in Kuwait for 30 years.

Christians in Kuwait are mainly Lebanese or Palestinians who came to the country after the discovery of oil in the 1930s.

Only a handful have Kuwaiti nationality and others are not entitled to apply for it under current Kuwaiti law.

However, they say they have felt threatened only once — at the peak of the fundamentalist wave that swept through the Mus-

lim world in the 1980s.

"We were frightened when a pro-Iranian extremist trend grew in Kuwait. The newspapers attacked the existence of our churches and people were harassing us," Mr. Haddad said.

"My daughters used to be insulted by Kuwaiti fundamentalists when they wore a cross around their necks. But now the situation is better," he added.

There are now seven churches in Kuwait, one of which — the Catholic Church of the Sacred Family — was built in the city centre in 1960 with government funds provided as a goodwill gesture to the Vatican.

During the seven-month Iraqi occupation the church was surrounded by mines and trenches because of its position near the Gulf coast. Worshippers used an underground shelter beneath the Salmiyah church instead.

Kuwait also has a school run by nuns for some 4,000 Christian and Muslim girls.

Christian teaching is banned in class, but each church has its own Friday school — equivalent to Sunday school — where hundreds of children can read the Bible.

More than half the Christian community left during the Iraqi occupation but they are returning — they now number up to 40,000.

"The Christians are coming back because there is business now with the reconstruction of Kuwait after the damage caused by the occupation," said Mr. Saabi. "As long as we concentrate on our business here and stay away from politics we will be fine."

Bush choice for U.S. Supreme Court could push it further right

By James Vicini
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court, which can dictate policies ranging from race relations to abortion, has taken a sharp political right-turn and is likely to become even more conservative.

When it starts its next term in October, the court's nine-strong panel, which determines whether laws passed by Congress and signed by the president are constitutional, will be minus its staunchest liberal — Justice Thurgood Marshall who announced his retirement in June.

Mr. Marshall's place may be taken by conservative black Judge Clarence Thomas whose presence, civil rights groups say, will swing the already conservative court firmly to the right in its decision-making.

Mr. Thomas, 43, a court of appeals judge, is President George Bush's choice to fill the position vacated by Mr. Marshall, 83, a civil rights lawyer and the first and only black to sit on the nation's highest court.

A controversial choice, Mr. Thomas must be approved by the Democratic-controlled U.S. Senate which will assess his standing on abortion, prayer in public schools and civil rights. The process is likely to be accompanied by heavy scrutiny and could spark political fireworks, civil rights leaders say.

All of those rulings came on 5-4 or 6-3 votes by the court's conservative majority.

In its review of the term, the

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) denounced the court for what it said was its failure to protect basic constitutional rights.

Legal experts predicted control by the conservatives would be even more pronounced in the 1991-92 term beginning in October because of the retirement of Mr. Marshall, the court's last remaining liberal.

Asked by reporters if he was retiring because he was frustrated by the court's conservative tilt, Mr. Marshall said with a chuckle that he was leaving because "I'm getting old and falling apart."

He was appointed to the court 24 years ago by then Democrat President Lyndon Johnson. Supreme Court justices are appointed for life.

Beside Mr. Souter, the conservative wing of the court consists of Chief Justice William Rehnquist, Justices Sandra Day O'Connor — the only woman — Antonin Scalia and Anthony Kennedy, all appointed by Republican President Ronald Reagan and Justice Byron White, nominated in 1962 by Democrat John Kennedy.

"During the 1990-91 term the conservative majority showed that it is thoroughly in control of the court's docket," said University of Virginia law Professor A.E. Dick Howard.

"Souter has proved to be, by and large, a predictable and conservative member of the conservative bloc."

reactions of the prisoners. Those who showed excitement and joy were declared dangerous and handed over for execution.

The Islamic Republic's savage abuse of human rights is not limited to prisons. The horrible scenes from my cellmate's bizarre tales are evoked all over Iran: the nation is being tortured. Lawlessness and the rape of human rights are so prevalent that at times they take on ironic dimensions. Anatomy was banned by decree in medical schools, a decision which almost led to their closure. Attempts were made to purchase (non-Muslim) corpses from India, but when this was found to be costly, Khomeini declared anatomy was not religiously wrong. But the compromise was conditional: the corpses of non-Muslims, such as those of Christians, Jews and Zoroastrians, should be used before those of Muslims.

After the revolution, the voices of female singers were banned on TV and radio. After a while, this decision generated a new problem: how were producers to deal with female choirs singing pro-Khomeini propaganda? They referred back to the ayatollah, who immediately declared that in group singing the female voice sounds low and becomes almost indistinguishable from the male. There is, therefore, nothing wrong with broadcasting such songs on the mass media.

It is a good example of how the government views women. In his book, *The Structure of Women's Rights in Islam* Avatollah Muta-hari, one of the Islamic government's theoreticians, writes: "Sustaining womanhood requires the preservation of beauty, liveliness and pride in a woman. This end demands more tranquility and peace of mind, less activity. If a woman should be constantly involved with strife and struggles and occupied with earning money like a man, her pride would be crushed. The lines and wrinkles that financial difficulties have drawn on the face of a man will soon appear on her face." He adds: "A woman who lacks peace of mind would also lack time to take care of herself, and be the foundation of man's happiness and well being." On this basis, the regime has decided to purge women from offices. In the Islamic Republic, a woman is not apt to become a judge because her "sensitive nature and handicapped rationality" prevent her from judging rightly. Consequently, all the women who worked in the court system and held judicial offices had to give up their positions: many were forced to move on the glorious path of domesticity. Higher education in engineering and agriculture was banned for female students on the grounds that these occupations make a woman's appearance and body masculine.

Women are the instrument of happiness and this implies that they must be severely watched because they could easily seduce men. In the streets and alleys of all cities, government agents riding motorcycles desperately look for a woman whose veil is perhaps pulled back a little exposing some strands of hair. This allows them to arrest her for the crime of prostitution. The mediaeval method of stoning to death those men and women who are accused of adultery has become the standard way of dealing with such accusations.

The present government re-

Rituals of torture

By Nasim Khaksar
Part two of two: part one appeared yesterday.

UNDER the Islamic Republic's rule, the torture of political prisoners has been transformed into a religious ritual. A warder in Evin prison once said that by eliminating the "scum" who oppose the government, they are paving the way for the reappearance of the twelfth Imam, the "Messiah" of Shiite Islam. In one of his speeches, Ayatollah Khomeini emphasising a reference to Koranic "murder verses," called torture a necessity. Inside Evin prison is an empty pool. The political prisoners who are sentenced to death are pushed down into the pool and shot at from above. Then the prison warders sit by that same pool, eat a meal and pray.

In one of his books, Franz Kafka describes a torture device that finally acquired its particular name during the Shah's reign. "Apollo" was a bed to which prisoners were tied. A huge metal cap on the bed covers the head and face of the prisoner during torture. Four locks at the top and the foot of the bed held the wrists and ankles of the captive. Political prisoners on the "Apollo" were lashed to the verge of death or tortured with electrical shocks. After the revolution, the Islamic Republic invented a new "Apollo" on which women were raped, prisoners were executed before the eyes of other prisoners and the most barbaric forms of lashing were used. During the Shah's regime, prisoners were whipped on the soles of the feet: in the prisons of the Islamic Republic, the entire body of the prisoner is "cleansed" under the strokes of the whip. Lashing is the most savage form of torture that has ever been invented by brutal regimes. Not only is the human body torn, the victim is humiliated beyond imagining. Beneath its blows, the sounds that burst out of a person's throat have little affinity with any human sound.

A political prisoner who spent some time in a Tabriz prison told me that the prison cats had become wild because they had fed on so much blood. And through-out the nights when no one was executed the beasts screeched. No. Don't turn away. We have still to scrutinise the nightmare.

Before the execution of virgin women the torturers wed them. On the following day, in accordance with Shiite traditions, the "groom" goes to the house of the "bride" and pays the parents *mehrieh* (dowry). He then congratulates the parents that on the last days of her existence their child was finally made pure, because she married a Muslim. Chaos and disorder in the prisons are so great that even after their term is over, many political prisoners are still not freed.

Some years ago, Lajevardi, head warder of Evin prison, tried on his own initiative to screen out those political prisoners who were a serious threat to the system. They were a rather large group and might have been paroled. Lajevardi planned a fake TV news broadcast on the prison's closed-circuit TV. The usual programme was suddenly interrupted and a reporter announced the downfall of Khomeini's regime. The guards who had earlier been instructed by prison warder, studied the

wards violence. Handicapped war veterans and families of martyrs can enter any university without having to take the mandatory qualifying exam; culture as well as the sciences have been manipulated under the shadow of death and dying. In our society, culture and literature are in a state of coma and hardly breathing. Most publishing facilities are reserved for those who advocate the ideology of the government. Contemporary children's literature is filled with superstitions. In the religious city of Qom, every once in a while school children are taken to cemeteries and are shown corpses so that they can overcome the fear of death.

In a society whose poets of centuries ago, like Hafez and Mowlavi (Jalaludin Rumi), appreciated life in the symbols of wine, women, and love, imprisoning life in the depths of despoiled graves means robbing that society of its genuine culture. The portrayal of society in *The Blind Owl*, a novel by Sadegh Hedayat, one of the most celebrated Iranian writers who died in the 1960s, is a valid picture of Iran today: life is the traffic on the vicious route between the damp, dark room and the cemetery; the only audible sound is that of the loose wheel of the wagon which carries a mutilated body from the room to the cemetery. Life has grown pale and turned grey in our society.

Having chased the realities, we can return to the first nightmare: a wedding for the dead, the true image of our people's life under the Islamic Republic's religious rule. When life cannot find a chance to blossom, humans turn into ghosts. They talk with the dead. They hold ceremonies for the dead. They find no difference between themselves and the dead. We can understand the reasons for the preoccupation with ghosts and apparitions in the folktales of societies that have been victims of despotism. In such tales the ghosts live in dim nights, call each other, hold ceremonies. But in Iran, the life of the ghosts has filled the days, too. The passing nightmare of "a wedding for the dead" will not let me be. I can see the scene in all its details. The bride's mother rises, and approaches the empty chair. Is the chair really empty? She bends, kisses the ghost, and the ghost kisses her. The groom's father, gazing at his son who is sitting next to his bride, sees his own youth in the son. Someone calls: "Let's throw the coins over their heads." Everyone gets up. The glittering chandeliers tremble. The coins gleam under the light. A young girl holds the long tale of the bride's garment and slowly walks behind her. The bride and bridegroom, smoothly, gracefully, pass in front of the guests. And say goodbye.

The mother asks: "Where are you going?"

Bride: "We are sleepy. We are tired, very tired. We want to go to sleep."

Mother: "The night has just begun."

Yes, the night has just begun. In the dark a party is smashing the gravestones of the "damned land." They are dragging the dead out of their bed.

Nasim Khaksar is an Iranian writer living in Holland. The article is reprinted from *Index on Censorship*, a London-based media watchdog.

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SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Agassi to make Australian indoor debut

SYDNEY (R) — Flamboyant American Andre Agassi will make his Australian debut at the country's 1991 Indoor Tennis Championships, organisers said Wednesday. Agassi will join world number three Ivan Lendl and U.S. Open champion Pete Sampras in the \$1-million event which starts on Sept. 30, tournament director Graham Lovett said. Yugoslav Goran Ivanisevic, 1989 French Open champion Michael Chang of the United States and Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union would also take part, said Lovett. Organisers are hoping to attract world number one Boris Becker and number two Stefan Edberg before entries close next month.

'Marseille will play attacking soccer'

PARIS (R) — Tomislav Ivic, new trainer of European Cup finalists Marseille, has pledged to put his defensive image behind him and use an attacking strategy with the French club. Yugoslav Ivic acquired a notorious reputation for stifling tactics with his last two clubs, Paris St Germain and Atletico Madrid, but in an interview published Tuesday he said things would be different in Marseille. "I work with the tools I am offered," he told the weekly France Football. "In Paris and Madrid I had to shut up shop to get results. In Marseille I have the best squad in Europe and I won't restrict the players. I'm not going to ask (Chris) Waddle to play right back or (Manuel) Amoros to stay solely in the full back slot. They will play as they know how." Ivic was a surprise choice to take over from Raymond Goethals as chief trainer at Marseille. The Belgian, criticised by Marseille President Bernard Tapie for using over-cautious tactics in the European Cup Final against Red Star Belgrade, has moved into a supervisory role. The Yugoslav revealed in the interview that he had never even met Tapie. "I only know him from his photo," he said. "It was Goethals who wanted to hire me. We knew each other when we were both trainers in Belgium."

Uruguay draws 1-1 with Ecuador

VINA DEL MAR, Chile (R) — Uruguay, missing its best forwards, played to a 1-1 draw against Ecuador in a South American Soccer Championship Group B preliminary round match. Ecuador captain Alex Aguinaga converted in the 44th minute off a pass from the midfield line by back Jimmy Montanero for the only goal of the first half. Ecuador narrowly missed a chance for another first half goal when a header by Byron Tenorio hit the crossbar. With tight marking by both sides in midfield, Uruguay looked to score with high centres, but was outplayed by the taller Ecuadorian defenders. After Uruguayan midfielder Ramon Castro was brought down by goalkeeper Erwin Ramirez, Peter Mendez converted the penalty in the 49th to secure the draw.

Leeds told to pay £3m for players

LONDON (R) — Leeds were told to pay £3 million (\$4.8 million) by the English soccer transfer tribunal for their three major close season signings. Leeds, who are strengthening their squad in a determined bid for the first division title next season, were ordered to pay Southampton £1.6 million (\$2.5 million) for striker Rod Wallace and a further £100,000 (\$160,000) for his twin brother Ray, a defender. The Football League Tribunal also set the value for England defender Tony Dorigo at £1.3 million (\$2.1 million) after Leeds and Chelsea failed to agree on a fee.

Bordeaux ordered to pay former trainer

BORDEAUX, France (R) — Financially troubled French soccer club Bordeaux, relegated to the second division after going into receivership, was Tuesday ordered by a civil court to pay 700,000 francs (\$115,000) compensation to former trainer Aime Jacquet. Jacquet, sacked by Bordeaux in 1989 after 10 years in charge of the team which dominated French soccer throughout the 1980s, had claimed 3.6 million francs (\$600,000) in unpaid salary and damages. The trainer later joined Montpellier and Nancy but is currently without a job.

Foster posts season's best in hurdles

LAPPEENRANTA, Finland (R) — American Greg Foster, the world 110 metres hurdles champion, set the season's best for the second time in five days. Foster, preparing to defend his title at the World Championships in Tokyo next month, easily won the event at the Karelia Games in 13.11 seconds, one hundredth of a second better than his previous best in Linz, Austria, last week. Compatriot Tony Dees was second in 13.35, one hundredth of a second slower than his fastest time of the season. "This must be a really fast track because, at least at first, the race seemed to go really badly," Foster said. Seppo Raty, Finland's world javelin champion who has smashed the world record twice already this season, finished a disappointing sixth in his event.

S. Africa readmitted to world cricket

LONDON (R) — South Africa's 21-year absence from world cricket ended at the sport's traditional headquarters at Lord's Wednesday.

Their return to the international arena was announced by Colin Cowdrey, chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC), the game's world ruling authority.

Cowdrey said the ICC recognised the new body for cricket in South Africa, the United Cricket Board of South Africa, and elected them to full membership "with immediate effect."

Now the South Africans will be able to play against black countries such as West Indies, Pakistan and India as well as the white nations — England, Australia and New Zealand — which had previously been their only opponents.

Former England captain Cowdrey would not confirm that the voting had been unanimous, but stressed: "Everybody voted and no-one was against."

The implication was that one or more of the seven full member countries who play test cricket, or 19 associate members, had abstained.

Cowdrey said: "We have given them (the United Cricket Board) our good wishes because South Africa has satisfied all the things we have hoped for and asked for over many years and much more than that."



Al Hussein Youth goalkeeper saves a high ball with Al Wahdat winning 2-0 (Photo by Youssef Al Alian)

8 teams qualify to 4th round of Jordanian Soccer Cup

By Ahmad Ismail
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Eight clubs were qualified to the 4th round of the Jordanian Soccer Cup competition after beating their rivals in the third round of the tournament, which consists of First and Second division clubs.

Al Ahli, Al Wahdat, Al Faisali and Al Karmel secured their positions in the next round by beating Al Yarmouk, Al Hussein Youth, Al Fuheis and Al Sarh, respectively.

Al Ahli overpowered Al Yarmouk 5-0, their best result to date in the competition. In this match there were good attacking moves

by Al Ahli in the first half. Their playmaker, Abdul Razaq Kawash, put them in the lead in the 37th minute by an angled header from Nart Yada. Al Ahli extended its lead to 2-0 four minutes before the end of the first half.

A thrilling hat-trick from Walid Fatafta in the second half raised Al Ahli's tally to 5-0 and lifted Fatafta to the top of scorers' table.

With ten minutes before the final whistle, Al Yarmouk mounted repeated attacks as they pressed to narrow the margin, but their attacks were in vain.

Two goals from Hisban Mune'm and Talal Al Banaa broke a 45 minute scoreless tie and led Al Wahdat to beat Al Hussein Youth 2-0. Al Wahdat took the initiative in an energetic second half despite having equal scoring opportunities. A header from Hisban Mune'm put Al Wahdat ahead 1-0 in the 51st minute.

Al Wahdat, relying on their superior strength on the attack, scored their second goal in the 82nd minute by Talal Al Banaa from a sloppy back pass midway. The Al Hussein's goalkeeper was

rarely troubled in the final minutes.

Al Faisali fired six balls into the Al Fuheis net when they met at Al Hussein Sport City Sunday. Jamal Abu Abed, Khalid Awad and Subhi Awad played vital roles in beating Al Fuheis on offside traps and creating more scoring chances. Their second half attacks were much stronger and their hard work paid off with several opportunities.

Al Karmel was the last team to qualify to the 4th round after beating Al Sarh 2-0 when they played at Al Hussein Sport City Monday.

Mahmoud Sulaiman put Al Karmel in the lead in the 42nd minute, seven minutes before Al Karmel's attacker Sulaiman Faiz was brought down in the penalty area. Faiz himself put the ball into the right side of the Al Sarh net to make it 2-0 for Al Karmel.

Al Karmel has joined the list of Al Ramtha, Al Zarqa, Al Jeel, Al Hussein, Al Ahli, Al Wahdat and Al Faisali due to play in the 4th round matches, which will be fixed by the Jordanian Football Association at a later date.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY JULY 12, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a good day for last minute correspondence and communications with others where you have a need for additional discussions or thrashing out practical phases of any plan pending.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Until tonight be careful in any driving or walking and avoid making any remarks that could irritate others, then tonight get out to see pals.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You want to have some fun but there are lots of duties to do during the daytime and then tonight you can get off to the recreations of your choice.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A day when you feel your family do not understand you and they don't as they are interested in their own troubles but tonight all will be better.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) This is your day to use a great deal of care to make no comment that anyone could object to, then tonight you can wow the general public.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Your need for more of this world's good should wait until after you have spent the day getting rid of obligations of a longtime nature to be done.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Those who have any control

over your affairs are pretty critical now so keep yourself and your actions above any reproach today.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Many new ideas appeal to you but they need to have a lot of investigating done on them before you will be able to utilize them constructively.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Your obligations certainly can mean much to you and its essential you get them behind you today before enjoying romantic happiness tonight.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) This is your time to make sure you do carry through whatever you have agreed to do with associates, then tonight go off a romantic phase.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Whatever you would like to do requiring some new approach to your duties requires daytime study, then tonight get your health in far better shape.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Think over that pleasure and don't plunge into it early or you find you have big trouble, but tonight all works out as you most desire.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Your own clan expects almost more than you feel you can handle but cooperate and go along with them today and then tonight do things you personally like.

LOCAL SPORTS IN BRIEF

Jordan to host Arab wrestlers meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will host the meetings of Arab Wrestling Federation (AWF) due to be held on Sept. 25. Ghazi Zainab, AWF's secretary-general, told the Jordan Times that many invitations were extended to the Arab federations to attend the meetings, which will deal with the fixture and venues of tournaments and re-election of a new executive board for the Arab federation. He added that the fixture of the Arab Youth Championship will be decided this week under the supervision of the Amman-based AWF secretariat.

Arab fencers to gather in Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will host the meeting of the Arab Fencing Federation (AFF) due to be held later this month. Ahmad Muslih, the manager of the Jordanian national team, said that the Jordanian federation, received full support from Arab federations to hold this meeting, which will deal with AFF's activities. He added that his three-day working visit to Cairo was successful where he discussed joint co-operation between the two federations so as to help the AFF host this meeting.

Jordan Rally to be held on Sept. 5

AMMAN (J.T.) — The National Motor Sports Committee of Jordan has confirmed that the Jordan International Rally will take place on the revised date of Sept. 5 and 6, 1991, according to a press release received Wednesday. The Jordan Rally now becomes the first event in the reinstated FISA Middle East Rally Championship for 1991. Six other events are listed to be held before the end of the year. The rally will be based at the Marriott Hotel in Amman which has been its home for the past eight years. The Jordan Rally will be slightly shorter than in the past due to the loss of some of the northern special stages as a result of road closures during reconstruction. In announcing the resumption of the Middle East Championship FISA, the world governing body, stated that it was "deeply sympathetic towards organising countries and congratulated them on their courage and sportsmanship."

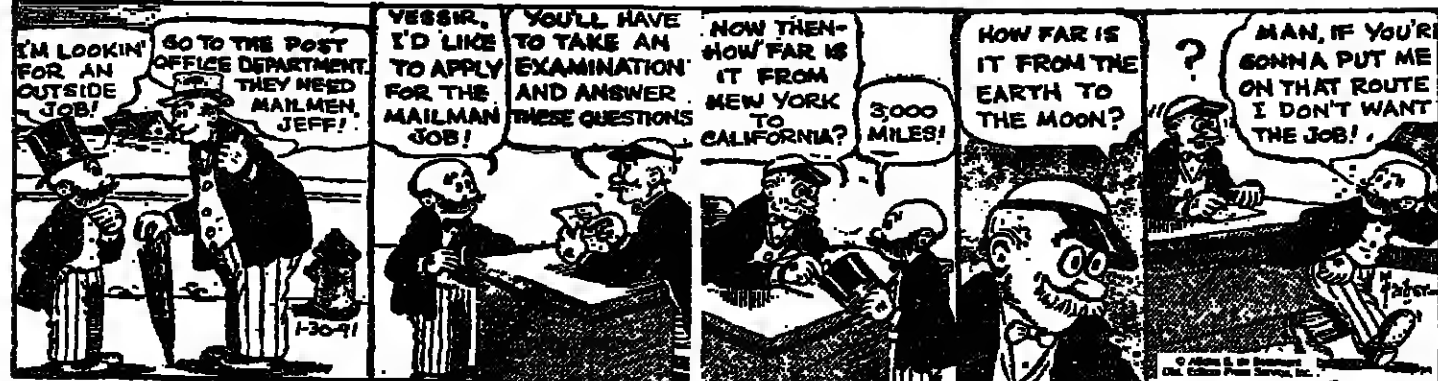
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY JULY 11, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The New Moon in Cancer (moonchild) accompanied by a Solar Eclipse at 12:06 PM PDT opens a new outlet or window for your immediate benefit but it requires you to take action and work out details.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You can get fellow associates to do much that makes everything more efficient in your joint duties or where your property is concerned.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) This is your time to make sure that you do handle personal matters very carefully early in the day but the evening finds you having a wonderful time.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Family can cause some private aggravations early but later you find you are able to get home conditions much improved by your own efforts.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your need for some social pleasures hasn't a chance early so put your efforts on personal problems but later is fine for sociability.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You find that most everyone looks at you critically early but do a good job and all's well, then later you can get out in the world for whatever you wish to do.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is your moment to show you can accept new ideas and suggestions even though early you

have to do the chores that have been left undone.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Take no chances whatever with your own finances or where any joint affairs are concerned but later personal intimate joys can be yours in large measure.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Whatever argument you have with an associate should be tempered so no adverse results occur but later you can join friends in happy recreation.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Discussions with those to whom you owe some service and to those who work with or for you is no good now so be sure to sidestep them.

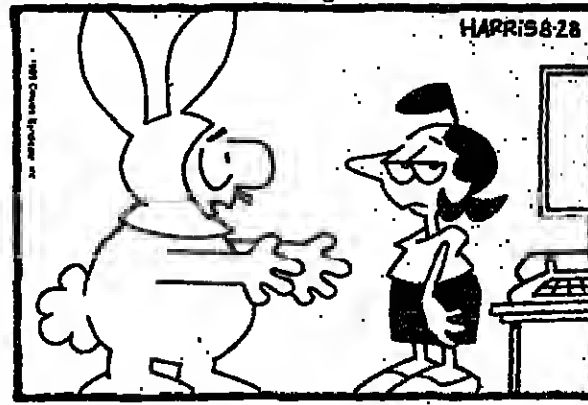
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Friends and attachment bring you nothing but problems early so do what you must on your own and by yourself but later bring newcomers into your life.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Family and officials can give you a bad time so sidestep them and put your efforts now on handling all types of obstacles that may come to you.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Your mind and the way it expresses itself is apt to cause some problems to others but if you get in touch with partners, listen to them you make your views workable.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Remember when we were in the pet store and you saw a bunny and you thought it was so adorable?"

JUMBLE.

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ISTUE

SONIE

TEYQUI

MANDET

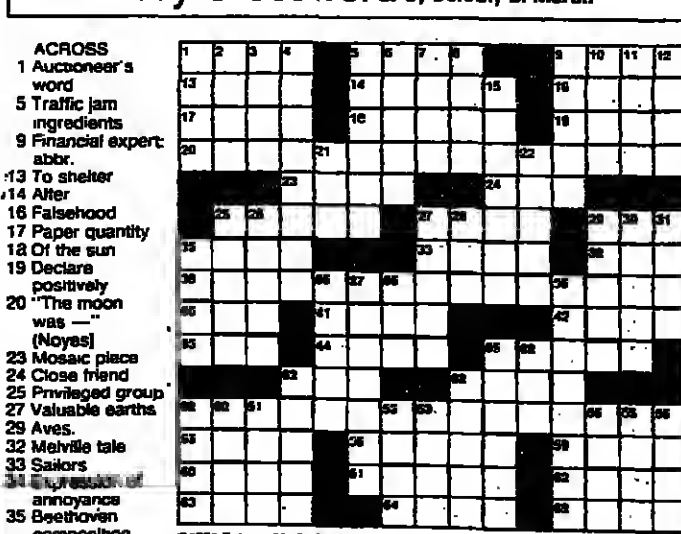
Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: AWARD MOUSE HAGGLE VERIFY

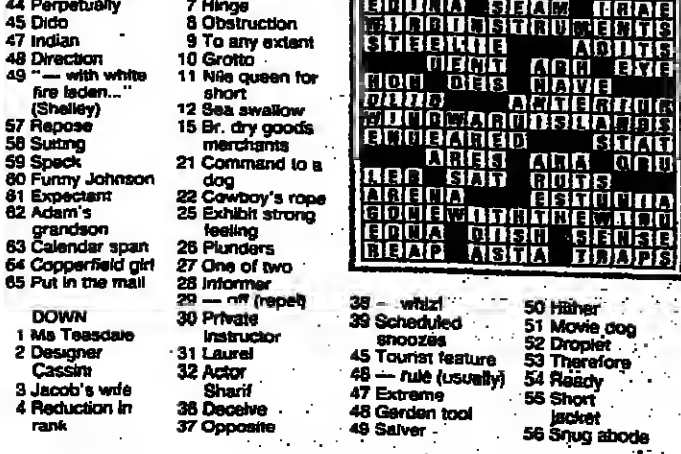
Answer: That road hog was willing to meet any other driver --- MORE THAN HALFWAY

THE Daily Crossword by Dorothy B. Martin



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSH

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PUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE TO USE

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

10 9 3

K 5

J 6

A Q J 9 7 4

WEST

J 6 4 2

Q J 10 9 7

10 7

K 6

SOUTH

A K Q 8 7 5

A 6

A K 3

8 2

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

4 NT Pass 5 ♠ Pass

5 NT Pass 6 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass

Opening lead?

Would memorizing the table of opening leads make you a better opening leader? Well, it would probably improve your performance, but to find those killing opening leads you have to listen to the bidding and adapt what you have learned to your holding. To test your skill, study the auction and select your opening lead before reading on.

South was not far off a demand bid, so after learning that partner had a reasonable hand and some sort of spade fit, South launched into

Blackwood before settling for a small slam on discovering a king was missing.

If you were to consult an opening-lead table, it would probably indicate the queen of hearts was the recommended attack from your holding. Let's see what would happen.

Declarer would win and cash a top trump, discovering there was an unexpected trump loser. After ruffing a diamond in dummy, declarer would draw two more rounds of trumps and then try the club finesse. That would succeed, and the slam would roll home.

Now consider what you might lead if you were paying attention to the auction. You know you have a surprise for declarer—you are looking at an almost sure trump trick. Since South was interested in a grand slam, chances are the only king missing is your king of clubs, and you know it's a finesseable. Even if declarer needs discards, odds are that dummy's clubs will provide them.

But what if you were to lead a sneaky low club? Since declarer does not yet know that he has a trump loser and fearing a club ruff, declarer is quite likely to go up with ace of clubs rather than risk the finesse. That will result in a loser in each black suit—down one.

Financial Markets

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close 9/7/1991	Tokyo Close 10/7/91
Sterling Pound	1.6229	1.6175
Deutsche Mark	1.8170	1.8207
Swiss Franc	1.5750	1.5797
French Franc	6.1665	6.1793
Japanese Yen	138.76	138.66
European Currency Unit	1.1305	1.1283

European Currency Unit

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.93	6.06	6.37	6.81
Sterling Pound	11.12	10.87	10.68	10.62
Deutsche Mark	8.87	9.06	9.25	9.31
Swiss Franc	8.06	7.87	7.81	7.56
French Franc	9.56	9.56	9.56	9.62
Japanese Yen	7.37	7.50	7.31	7.28
European Currency Unit	9.64	9.3	10.06	10.06

Gold

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	368.85	7.15	Silver	4.44	.10

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	.588	.590
Sterling Pound	1.1124	1.1180
Deutsche Mark	.3777	.3796
Swiss Franc	.4357	.4379
French Franc	.1113	.1119
Japanese Yen	.4956	.4981
Dutch Guilder	.3354	.3371
Swedish Krona	.1044	.1049
Italian Lira	.0508	.0511
Belgian Franc	.01840	.01849

Other Currencies

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8100	1.8350
Lebanese Lira	.0760	.0780
Saudi Riyal	.1630	.1639
Kuwaiti Dinar	-	-
Qatari Riyal	.1860	.1873
Egyptian Pound	.1850	.2000
Omani Riyal	1.7800	1.7900
UAE Dirham	.1860	.1873
Greek Drachma	.3300	.3500
Cypriot Pound	1.3800	1.4100

CAR Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	8/7/1991 Close	9/7/1991 Close
All-Share	111.98	112.00
Banking Sector	106.70	106.94
Insurance Sector	120.48	120.09
Industry Sector	117.78	117.19
Services Sector	127.38	127.15

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.6168/78	U.S. dollar	1.1478/83
One U.S. dollar	1.8195/8205	Canadian dollar	1.1575/82
	2.0500/10	Deutsche marks	37.48/52
	1.5775/82	Dutch guilders	6.1800/50
	37.48/52	Swiss francs	1354/1355
	6.1800/50	Belgian francs	138.55/65
	1354/1355	French francs	6.5860/10
	138.55/65	Italian lire	7.1050/1100
	6.5860/10	Japanese yen	7.0430/80
	7.1050/1100	Swedish crowns	
	7.0430/80	Norwegian crowns	
		Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	370.40/370.90	U.S. dollars	

Egypt wins huge aid commitment at Paris meeting

PARIS (R) — Egypt won commitments of aid of about \$4 billion per year over the next two years at a meeting Tuesday, the World Bank said in a statement. International donors also agreed to finance a social fund to help sections of the population whose livelihood are at risk due to economic adjustment.

The World Bank is putting \$140 million in soft loans towards the fund and, with additional resources from donor countries and organizations, it will total \$500 million, the bank said.

"We received much more than I expected when I came here," Egypt's Deputy Prime Minister Kamal Ganzouri told a news conference.

He rejected a suggestion that Egypt had profited by supporting the anti-Iraq coalition during the

Swedish Ordnance plans 30% workforce cuts

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Sweden's biggest arms producer, Swedish Ordnance, has announced plans to cut its workforce by almost 30 per cent and said the company's future was at stake unless it receives new orders.

Swedish Ordnance was created last January when Bofors A.B. merged with FFV Ordnance, its production includes missiles, artillery, anti-tank guns and ammunition.

The company said in a statement that more than 4,000 workers would be laid off and warned that further reductions may be necessary at the end of the year.

"We take it for granted that the (Swedish) defence will assist so

that we survive in the future ... and our conditions for exports must be substantially improved," said Managing Director Bert Sjolin.

This neutral country's arms exports are tightly restricted and domestic producers depend heavily on orders from the Defence Ministry.

The military, burdened by the development of a new supersonic aircraft, the Jas 39 Gripen, has asked parliament for additional contracts. But politicians have said it would be inappropriate to rearm at a time of international detente.

Swedish Ordnance is owned by the state and the diversified group Nobel Industries Sweden.

'Inflation in Nicaragua rests in peace'

MANAGUA (AP) — The government says it has stopped inflation dead with its new stabilisation plan, which aimed to steady an economy wracked by 13,000 per cent inflation last year.

"Inflation in Nicaragua rests in peace," the government said in a televised statement.

Antonio Lacayo, minister of the presidency and a key aide to President Violeta Chamorro, said that for the past two months Nicaragua's economy has deflated, not inflated.

Mr. Lacayo said the inflation rate was minus 6.39 per cent in May and minus 7.06 per cent in June. Bank deposits also remained stable, he said.

The stabilisation plan, announced March 3, sharply devalued the new gold cordoba introduced last year and eliminated use of the old cordoba, worth less than three million to the dollar.

The gold cordoba, which had been worth \$1, was devalued to one-fifth of one dollar. It has maintained that value over the past four months, a sharp contrast to the weekly Monday devaluations that took place last year.

On the black market, cordobas now fluctuate between 5.15 and 5.25 per dollar.

Mrs. Chamorro, who took power last year, has accused the previous Sandinista government of destroying Nicaragua's economy during their decade in power. The Sandinistas blamed a U.S.-sponsored civil war for making the economy unmanageable.



Kamal Al Ganzouri

Gulf war. "We were the biggest loser in the crisis, not the winner," he said.

Mr. Ganzouri said Egypt lost \$20 billion in revenue in the 10 months starting August 1990 and some \$3 billion because 600,000 overseas workers had lost their jobs.

World Bank vice-president for the Middle East, Willi Wapenhans, told the news conference that most of the aid would be in grants or soft loans. Only \$500 million would be on commercial terms.

Kuwait says inflation under control

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's central bank governor says inflation is under control following a steep rise in prices caused by widespread shortages immediately after the emirate's liberation from Iraqi occupation.

Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah said government subsidies on key commodities and support for the currency had stabilised prices and brought plentiful supplies into the shops just four months after the end of the war.

Many economists believe the apparent optimism is misplaced because industry is still in tatters, and they say the Kuwaiti government could be spending its way into deeper trouble.

"We are experiencing a post-war spending boom," said Youssef Al Ibrahim, a research economist at Kuwait University. "It might last one year at the most, then we might well see stagnation. You cannot activate the

economy through government spending alone."

Sheikh Salem said, however, that things were looking up. "There were significant price increases in the first few weeks after liberation," he told the Al Seyassah newspaper. "But recently the inflation rate has been slowing."

He gave no figures but economists estimate annual inflation — covering the period since last August's Iraqi invasion — at between 50 and 100 per cent.

A toothbrush can cost up to \$7 and food is as expensive in Kuwaiti shops as in restaurants in Paris or London.

The central bank governor said that shortages immediately after the U.S.-led coalition drove Iraq out of the emirate in February were responsible for the price increases.

The government had now brought in plentiful food imports, especially from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states.

It has stemmed import-led inflation — which can occur if the influx of goods causes the local currency to lose value and so raise the cost of buying abroad — by propping up the Kuwaiti dinar through large-scale central bank intervention.

Economists estimate the bank has spent up to \$1 billion to maintain the dinar near its pre-invasion level of 3.45.

The government has also subsidised food prices at state-owned cooperatives, forcing privately-owned supermarkets to mark down their own goods to remain competitive.

But the economic problems do not stop there. The government faces a huge cash-flow problem in meeting the cost of reconstruction while waiting for the resumption of oil exports, brought to a

halt because of hundreds of well-head fires lit by the Iraqis.

It expects a yawning deficit of up to \$80 billion over the next five years and will have to decide whether to borrow on international capital markets or sell some of its overseas assets, worth an estimated \$120 billion.

Sheikh Salem said the central bank would soon resume issuing treasury bills and other debt instruments. He added that bonds issued before the invasion were still available for immediate purchase.

Capital flight is still a major concern as investors appear reluctant to park their money in Kuwait before the revival of the local economy.

As well as supporting the dinar, the central bank has called a halt to interbank lending and imposed limits on foreign currency transfers.

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Sabena unveils massive losses

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgium's troubled national airline Sabena S.A. unveiled huge losses for 1990 and the first four months of this year Tuesday but said a major restructuring plan was starting to show results.

The company — pinning its hopes on a massive handout from the government and a link-up with British Airways PLC — said it posted a group loss of 7.15 billion francs (\$191 million) last year, three times the 1989 deficit.

The state-run company also said it had an operating loss of 2.16 billion francs (\$58 million) in the first four months of this year, although this was lower than had been budgeted.

Sabena was badly hit by the drop in air traffic during the Gulf crisis and has begun a major restructuring of the company, including job cuts and reductions in services.

The company said the reshuffle was having an impact and that it had an operating profit for the first time in 18 months for the month of April.

"These positive figures are a tangible result of the restructuring plan undertaken at the beginning of the year," Sabena said.

The government is reported to be offering \$1 billion in aid to Sabena, which will help towards clearing the company's debts and carrying out the restructuring plan.

Mr. Hashimoto and two senior ministry officials agreed to forfeit 10 per cent of their salaries for three months. Four senior bureaucrats received warnings.

At a news conference Wednesday, Mr. Hashimoto said he was taking the personal pay cut to show regret for his ministry's shortcomings in controlling the giant brokerages.

"This is the punishment I impose on myself," he said. "I am very sorry. We have taken this action because the ministry has not been able to grasp the details (of the scandals) until recently. We could not exercise full supervision."

Speaking separately to reporters, Vice Finance Minister Makoto Utsumi said the brokerage scandal did not technically

Kohl coalition agrees on cuts in state subsidies

BONN (R) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl's ruling coalition Tuesday agreed on a package of subsidy cuts which should end an argument over how to pay for unification and keep Economics Minister Juergen Moellmann in his job.

Government spokesman Dieter Vogel said parties in the centre-right coalition had agreed to cut 1992 state subsidies and tax benefits by 9.75 billion marks (\$5.4 billion).

Mr. Moellmann, a member of the liberal Free Democrats (FDP), had threatened to leave the cabinet if there was no accord.

But he told a news conference Tuesday: "I consider this the fulfilment of our coalition agreement (to cut subsidies)."

The FDP had long been campaigning for spending cuts to pay

for unification, and party chairman Otto Lambdorsoff Monday called for a radical reassessment of Bonn spending policies.

The cuts were thrashed out at a meeting Monday night of Mr. Moellmann, Finance Minister Theo Waigel and Interior Minister Wolfgang Schauble.

The main opposition party, the Social Democrats (SPD), accused the coalition of having lost control of state finances. They said Mr. Waigel should give up the leadership of the Christian Social Union (CSU) and concentrate on being finance minister.

The CSU is the Bavarian sister party to Mr. Kohl's Christian Social Union (CDU).

Ingrid Matthaeus-Maier, financial spokeswoman for the SPD, said the government's fiscal policy was a burden for Germany's economy and a danger to the



Juergen Moellmann

country's monetary stability.

The influential German Bundesbank has also strongly warned the government to make sure that high spending linked to unification in 1990 and 1991 is not carried on indefinitely.

Japan's finance minister cuts own salary to vindicate himself

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto apologised to the nation Wednesday for his ministry's failure to supervise the activities of top brokerages which have been caught out in a string of improper market deals.

Mr. Hashimoto and two senior ministry officials agreed to forfeit 10 per cent of their salaries for three months. Four senior bureaucrats received warnings.

At a news conference Wednesday, Mr. Hashimoto said he was taking the personal pay cut to show regret for his ministry's shortcomings in controlling the giant brokerages.

"This is the punishment I impose on myself," he said. "I am very sorry. We have taken this action because the ministry has not been able to grasp the details (of the scandals) until recently. We could not exercise full supervision."

Speaking separately to reporters, Vice Finance Minister Makoto Utsumi said the brokerage scandal did not technically

break any laws but resulted from what he called "very very improper business ethics."

Despite the tough words, fears remained in the markets that the scandals which humbled the big

four were not about to die.

"The market is going to remain very volatile because it can't predict what will come out next in terms of scandals or news," said one foreign broker.

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REVENGE
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Tennessee Buck
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Bush lifts S.Africa sanctions

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush ended a U.S. trade embargo against South Africa Wednesday, saying Pretoria's "irreversible" move towards dismantling apartheid justified lifting economic sanctions imposed in 1986.

Mr. Bush said at a news conference South Africa had met all five conditions, including the release of political prisoners, that Congress imposed to punish Pretoria for its policies of strict racial separation.

"Progress has been slow and often painful, but progress has definitely been made," he said.

"During the past two years we've seen a profound transformation in the situation in South Africa...I really firmly believe that this progress is irreversible," he said.

Mr. Bush said he had issued an executive order officially terminating the sanctions. He said he phoned African National Congress (ANC) President Nelson Mandela to inform him of the decision and would telephone South African President F.W. de

Klerk Thursday.

He did not say what Mr. Mandela's response was, but the ANC has insisted the South African government had not released all political prisoners as it claims.

The ANC said there were nearly 1,000 still being held, prisoners the white minority government said were being held for non-political reasons.

Mr. Bush also said he had ordered a doubling of U.S. assistance for South African blacks from \$40 million to \$80 million.

The money, he said, will be used to expand efforts to help meet economic and housing needs for South African blacks.

"This is a moment in history which many believed would never be attained. But we've done so through the efforts of many people in South Africa and around the world," he said.

The sanctions barred trade between the United States and South Africa on a wide variety of goods, including gold coins, computer technology, steel, coal, oil and farm products.

They also banned U.S. invest-

ment and direct air links.

Mr. Bush said separate legislation, not affected directly by Bush's action, would continue to bar U.S. arms deals and export-import bank loans to South Africa. The legislation also bars U.S. support for International Monetary Fund loans.

"All is not totally well there. And will continue to be as actively involved as we can be," he said.

Explaining his decision, he said economic growth would help both blacks and whites in South Africa. He rejected the argument of some opponents that lifting the sanctions would undermine the progress being made.

Mr. Bush said he hoped states and private institutions would take note of his lifting of the sanctions and would act accordingly to reopen trade links with South Africa.

Members of Congress who support continuing the sanctions have said they are powerless to block Mr. Bush.

On Tuesday at a news conference with Mr. Bush in Toronto,

Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said he disagreed with Mr. Bush and did not believe the conditions for lifting the sanctions had been fulfilled.

"We have implemented our sanctions, pursuant to a series of criteria, which once met, we will change. We don't believe they have been met," Mr. Mulroney said.

However, he said he agreed with Mr. Bush that Mr. De Klerk had made substantial strides towards ending apartheid.

Meanwhile Australia is unlikely to lift trade sanctions against South Africa before the end of the year despite the U.S. move.

"For all the progress that has been made the constitutional structure of apartheid very much remains and we think that more progress needs to take place down the track," Australian Foreign Affairs Minister Gareth Evans said Wednesday.

"So to that extent we would regard any decisions by the United States to lift sanctions really across the board as being premature," said Mr. Evans.

Yeltsin sworn in as Russia's 1st elected president

MOSCOW (R) — Boris Yeltsin, Communist Party chief turned populist leader, was sworn in Wednesday as Russia's first elected president in a televised ceremony at the grand Kremlin Palace.

Welcomed to the rostrum by a fanfare of trumpets, he pronounced the brief oath of office watched by his rival, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, and a galaxy of political and religious leaders.

Hand on heart, he swore to defend the laws, constitution and sovereignty of the Russian Republic, which stretches from the Baltic to the Bering Straits, the Arctic to the Black Sea.

Mr. Yeltsin, 60, also pledged to defend the freedoms of its 150 million citizens and the rights of its numerous ethnic peoples.

The former mining engineer from Siberia swept to victory on June 12 in Russia's first presidential elections, crowning a dramatic political comeback.

Symbolic of his triumph was an announcement that Mr. Yeltsin would be moving into the Kremlin, for centuries the seat of power of Muscovite tsars and Communist rulers of Russia.

Ten minutes before the start of the ceremony, which opened a session of the republic's highest legislature, the Congress of People's Deputies, workers were busy installing a men dark red and gilt sign for his office.

Mr. Yeltsin, the first non-Communist to hold top office in the Soviet Union since the 1917 revolution, maintained his customary scowl while actor Oleg Basilashvili referred in introductory remarks to Ivan the Terrible, Peter the Great and other great tsars of Russia's past.

Mulroney: Gorbachev deserves to be helped

DUBLIN (R) — Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney says Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev deserves to be helped by the world's richest democracies which should not expect miraculous changes overnight in the Soviet economy.

In an interview published Wednesday in the Irish Times on the eve of a four-day visit to Ireland, Mr. Mulroney said of Mr. Gorbachev: "Running a country is not easy. Running his is an extraordinary burden because he is trying to reverse 70 years of history."

Spelling out Canada's position before the Group of Seven economic summit in London next week, Mr. Mulroney added: "We believe that Mr. Gorbachev, with whom we have quite excellent relations... deserves to be helped."

Mr. Gorbachev, seeking Western aid to boost the sagging Soviet economy, will see the G7 — leaders of the United States, Canada, Japan, France, Britain, Germany and Italy — in London after their annual meeting.

"We do not subscribe to the views put out by some that assistance coming from us should be conditional upon Mikhail Gorbachev transforming the Soviet economy into a perfect replica of the West German economy by next Sunday night. It's not going to happen," said Mr. Mulroney.

"So we're not going to get any miracles and we shouldn't be asking for miracles. What we should be looking for is a discussion of change, evolutionary, fun-



Brian Mulroney

damental change.

"If the programme makes sense, and if the signposts are clear and if the time frames are realistic, I think we should then say collectively 'This makes sense, let us see what we can do to help'."

U.S. President George Bush and Mr. Mulroney Tuesday sought to discourage the idea that a dramatic Soviet aid package might emerge from the London economic summit.

The two leaders also hinted, however, that Mr. Gorbachev would not return home empty-handed.

Cautioning against expecting "blank cheques or miracles in London," Mr. Mulroney said he expected Mr. Gorbachev to bring a serious plan to reform the Soviet economy and predicted that this would bring a positive response from leaders of the seven major industrial powers.

"We're not going to throw good money after bad. We want to help but we want to do it in a very constructive and appropriate way," Mr. Mulroney told reporters after he and Mr. Bush discussed the upcoming London meeting at a brief "baseball summit" before the traditional annual all-star baseball game.

COLUMN

Bush to take thyroid pill for rest of his life

WASHINGTON (R) — Doctors said that President George Bush's overactive thyroid has been destroyed to the point that he must take a pill to mimic the effect of the gland for the rest of his life, the White House said.

Spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Mr. Bush's doctors gave him a new examination and prescribed him a ten-cent milligram a day of a drug known as synthroid to replace the thyroid's normal activity. He said Mr. Bush was in excellent health generally and will stop taking medication for an irregular heartbeat when the thyroid is completely stabilized. Mr. Bush suffered shortness of breath while jogging on May 4. It was determined he had atrial fibrillation, an irregular rhythm in the upper chambers of the heart. Doctors later blamed the heart problem on his overactive thyroid, saying he suffered from Graves disease, like his wife Barbara. "The president remains in excellent physical health," said a statement from Bush's physician Dr. Burton Lee. "He is conducting all of his business without any side effects from his medication and without any lingering problems from his recent Graves disease. He is now jogging and carrying on all his physical activities," he said.

Scientists may have key to stopping hair loss

MIAMI (R) — A protein found naturally in the human body may be the key to stopping hair loss in cancer patients receiving chemotherapy, a team of researchers have announced. Hair loss is a common and emotionally devastating side effect of chemotherapy, but to date the only thing cancer patients can do to try to minimize it is to wrap their heads in ice packs or cold cloths to try to slow the flow of the powerful chemotherapy drugs to the hair follicles. But Dr. Adel Yunis, professor of medicine and biochemistry at the University of Miami Medical School, and his colleagues believe the protein, called interleukin-1 or IL-1, can treat the protein using genetic engineering techniques, and hope to start a clinical trial at Miami's Jackson Memorial Hospital within a year. "This is the first drug that has been found to be effective against hair loss from chemotherapy agents," Dr. Adel Yunis told a news conference. Dr. Joaquin Jimenez, assistant professor of medicine at the university, said scientists stumbled on IL-1 during experiments on rats receiving chemotherapy drugs that should make their hair fall out.

London Zoo might close in 1992

LONDON (R) — London Zoo, the world's oldest, is likely to close next year because of a financial crisis, its governing body has said. Its closure would leave London as the only European capital without a zoo. London Zoo needs £13 million (\$21 million) to ensure its short-term survival, but the government has refused to come up with a lifeline. "Very reluctantly, and unless either private sponsorship and the government can find further funds, the zoo will close in September 1992," said Professor Avron Mitchison after an emergency meeting of the council of the Royal Zoological Society, which runs the zoo. The zoo in London's Regent's Park, whose popular inmates have included Chi-Chi the panda and Guy the gorilla, is home to about 8,000 animals. The privately-financed zoo was set up in 1828 by the Zoological Society of London and was the brainchild of Sir Stamford Raffles, founder of Singapore. London Zoo is finding it increasingly difficult to compete with newer safari parks and theme parks.

Jazz trumpeter gets top French award

PARIS (R) — American musician Miles Davis, one of the most significant figures in post-war jazz, has been made a knight of the Legion of Honour, France's national order, the Culture Ministry said. It said Cultural Affairs Minister Jack Lang would pin the order's red ribbon on the 66-year-old trumpeter and bandleader at a ceremony in Paris on July 16. With saxophonist Charlie Parker, Davis helped pioneer the post-war jazz movement known as bebop. Known for his lyrical soloing, he subsequently had an illustrious career playing with such influential musicians as Charles Mingus, Thelma Houston and John Coltrane.

Los Angeles police chief asked to quit

LOS ANGELES (R) — A commission charged with investigating the videotaped beating of a motorist by Los Angeles police has called for the resignation of embattled chief Daryl Gates.

The independent commission on the Los Angeles Police Department stopped short of asking for Mr. Gates' immediate resignation, suggesting he stay on during a transition period while a new chief is chosen.

The March 3 beating of motor-

ist Rodney King by four officers following a high-speed chase through north east Los Angeles was captured on videotape by an amateur photographer.

The tape shows the helpless Mr. King being hit 56 times by officers wielding nightsticks and being kicked about the head and body. It was broadcast worldwide and created a U.S. outcry against police brutality.

President George Bush called the beating "sickening" and

Mayor Tom Bradley appointed a seven-man commission to investigate, which was combined with a three-man commission appointed by Mr. Gates.

The commission's report, compiled in 100 days of intensive investigation, recommends sweeping changes in the Los Angeles Police Department aimed at eliminating police violence, riding the department of racial and sexual bias and emphasizing crime prevention rather than crime control.

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Indian state to free more Maoists

GUWAHATI, India (R) — India's Assam state will release more jailed Maoist separatists despite the death of a kidnapped Soviet engineer who was part of an exchange deal, officials said Wednesday.

The United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) said Tuesday Soviet mining expert Sergei Gritchenko was killed after he grabbed a gun from a rebel guard and tried to escape.

One of the Maoist group's men was killed "in the unfortunate incident" Sunday, it said. It did not say where in the oil and tea-producing northeast state Mr. Gritchenko died or where his body was.

Mr. Gritchenko, whose name was earlier given by police as Grigoriy Serevki, was kidnapped last week with 13 Indian officials. ULFA, fighting for an independent Assam, demanded the release of all its jailed supporters in return for the 14 men. Six senior ULFA men were among the first batch of 318 freed Tuesday, officials said.

The rebels did not announce Mr. Gritchenko's death until after the first group was freed from jails around Assam.

More ULFA supporters would be freed later in the day once the legal paperwork had been completed despite Mr. Gritchenko's death, state officials said.

He was working with five other Soviet advisers at an Assam coal mine.

Soviet consular official Victor Koulikov told Reuters the five had been flown home for safety after being brought earlier to Guwahati, Assam's commercial centre.

Mr. Gritchenko was the second foreigner to die in a kidnap attempt by anti-Indian rebels in the past two weeks.

On June 27, an Israeli tourist was killed when he and five colleagues jumped their abductors in the mountain state of Kashmir.

Another Indian official, held by secessionist Muslim rebels in Kashmir for 13 days, sent a plea to the government on Wednesday to bow to his kidnappers' demands.

K. Kraswamy, a Bombay-based executive of a state-owned oil company, sent a letter and a cassette tape to reporters saying he was in fine physical shape but anguished at radio reports detailing the twists and turns of negotiations on his fate.

Wall of mud swamps Philippine village near volcano

PORAC, Philippines (R) — Dozens of Philippine villagers fled Wednesday when walls of volcanic mud and rocks loosened by heavy rain swamped their riverside homes.

No casualties were reported from the mudslides, caused when heavy rain pounded the millions of tonnes of ash, sand and rocks Mount Pinatubo has dumped on its slopes since the volcano began erupting 32 days ago.

The mudslides smashed through sandbag fortifications in Jalung village near Porac Town for the second time in 13 days, residents said.

"It was frightening. Walls of mud, carrying boulders and rocks, came down from the river... we started running," 13-year-old Arnold David said.

Three dozen villagers who fled Jalung after Pinatubo woke from its 600-year slumber had returned Wednesday to salvage what they could from homes half-buried by previous mudflows.

Officials Tuesday ordered people living near rivers in Porac and four other towns to prepare to evacuate, saying rising battering Pinatubo's slopes raised dangers of fresh mudflows.

"We heard it as the mud started rumbling down the river," housewife Soledad Sult, 37, said. "The church bells started ringing. We started running to high ground."

Her husband, Roy Sult, 34, was trying to pull out the corrugated iron roof of his mud-covered house when we heard the roar from the river.

"I saw boulders as big as tree trunks being carried by the mud. We dropped everything and ran," he said. "I am getting away from here. I am going to farm elsewhere."

Pinatubo has killed 342 people, crippled two major U.S. military bases and forced more than a quarter of a million to flee since it started erupting on June 9.

The volcano shook again Wednesday with tremors and spewed out ash clouds 10,000 metres into the sky.

Wednesday's avalanche of mud left only the roofs of houses in Jalung visible.

Meanwhile some 15 jetliners have risked catastrophe by flying through the ash plume of the Philippine volcano despite warnings that the caustic particles could cause an accident, aviation and volcanism experts said.

A pilot who knew he was in the ash for 29 minutes kept on flying through it. Captain Ernest Campbell, manager of Airline Support and Flight Training at Boeing Co. told Reuters at a meeting in Seattle on the dangers of volcanic ash to aircraft.

"The best record I have of the Mount Pinatubo events is that we've had to replace 10 engines of different airplanes," he told the first international symposium on volcanic ash and aviation safety.

Iran-contra probe to move forward after guilty plea

WASHINGTON (R) — The Iran-contra special prosecutor has vowed to investigate the roles of other top intelligence and Reagan administration officials in the scandal after a former CIA officer agreed to cooperate in return for lesser charges.

Alan Fiers, the former chief of the CIA's Central American Task Force, pleaded guilty Tuesday to two misdemeanor charges of withholding information from Congress under a deal in which he promised to tell prosecutors all he knows about the affair.

Special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh hailed the plea bargain for significantly advancing his 4½-year investigation into the secret White House scheme during the administration of former President Ronald Reagan to sell arms to Iran in 1985-86 and divert the profits to the Nicaraguan contra rebels.

Mr. Walsh's associate, Craig Gillen, vowed to move quickly in pursuing the investigation that could shed new light on the extent and nature of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) involvement in the affair.

"There was a discussion, an understanding, at high levels within the CIA not to provide Congress (with the information it had demanded) for fear it would put the spotlight on the administration," Mr. Gillen told reporters outside the courthouse.

Mr. Fiers could provide crucial new information about what his

superiors at the CIA — including Robert Gates, President George's Bush's nominee to head the spy agency, and former CIA Deputy Director of Operations Clair George — knew about the scandal and when they knew it.

Also, Mr. Fiers in August 1986 met Donald Gregg, the national security assistant to then-Vice President Bush, in Mr. Gregg's office to discuss the efforts to supply arms to the contras despite a congressional ban.

Mr. Gregg, now the U.S. ambassador to South Korea, is a key target of the investigation, sources close to Mr. Walsh have said.

Peter Kornbluth of the National Security Archive, a private research group, said the plea bargain has reopened the possibility of exposing the extent of CIA involvement in the scandal.

It suggested that Mr. Walsh was taking steps to break into the secretive intelligence community and apply the rule of law there, said Mr. Kornbluth, co-editor of a collection of documents titled "The Iran-Contra Affair: The Making Of A Scandal."

The CIA previously has stymied Mr. Walsh's efforts to prosecute agency personnel.

For example, criminal charges against Joseph Fernandez, an ex-CIA station chief in Costa Rica who helped supply arms to the contras, had to be dismissed after the CIA refused to turn over classified documents to the defence.

Amnesty: Death squads still active in Latin America

LONDON (R) — Death squads killed hundreds of people in Central and South America last year, including government critics, human rights activists and many children, Amnesty International said Wednesday.

Hundreds more who disappeared were either found dead or were brutally tortured in prisons, police stations, military barracks or on the streets, the London-based human rights group said.

"And as in previous years, governments for the most part did little to clear up past abuses, either by investigating them or bringing the people responsible to justice," Amnesty said in its annual report, covering 1990.

"Death squads made up of members of the police or security forces — operating both on and off duty — have gunned down hundreds of people."

In Brazil almost 500 children were killed on the streets of just one city, Rio de Janeiro. Most of them were murdered by death squads, Amnesty said.

Reports of children killed by death squads increased in Guatemala, where there was also a rise in death squad attacks on politicians and journalists in the run-up to elections at the end of last year.

In El Salvador, death squad killings doubled in the first eight months of 1990 compared with the previous year, with many of

the bodies, often mutilated, found dumped by the roadside.

Throughout South and Central America hundreds of people were executed or "disappeared" by government forces. Thousands who disappeared in previous years remained unaccounted for.

In Colombia, Amnesty said, hundreds of people were executed or disappeared after being seized by members of the armed forces or paramilitary forces connected with them.

In Peru, more than 300 people, including children, disappeared after being arrested by security forces. Many were later found extrajudicially executed.

"Torture and ill-treatment by police, military and prison guards continued to be reported in the region in 1990," Amnesty said. "People were often beaten, given electric shocks, deprived of food or sleep or nearly suffocated — all in attempts to punish them or force them to confess to crimes."

Amnesty said cases of torture were also reported in Argentina, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico and Venezuela.

In the United States, Amnesty noted that 2,300 people were on death row awaiting execution. It commented: "The unique cruelty of the death penalty was shown when due to a malfunction in the electric chair one prisoner there had to have three applications of high voltage electricity before he died."

Cruel dilemmas face Yugoslavia's mixed Serb-Croat families

GLINA, Yugoslavia (R) — Most Serbs and Croats know whose side they are on in Yugoslavia's bloody ethnic conflict. But mixed families face some cruel dilemmas.

Dusanka Naglic, a Serb, lives with her Croatian husband Stepan in a no man's land on the edge of Glina, a Serbian-dominated town 80 kilometres from Croatia's capital, Zagreb.

"My nephew is one of the biggest Serbian terrorists in Glina," 61-year-old Dusanka said and began to cry. "I would not be sad if he died."

She gave up her Serbian Orthodox Christian religion 35 years ago when she married her husband, like most Croats a Roman Catholic. Her children have grown up as Croats and she hesitantly sides with the rest of her family.

A few metres to the left of their front door, a Yugoslav army tank bearing the federal Red-Star flag, is deployed.

Heavily-armed Croatian police are gathered a stone's throw away to the right, a position they took

up after their republic declared independence two weeks ago and the army moved in to separate the town's warring ethnic factions.

Just down the road, behind the first tank but before the army camp set up under the chestnut trees in Glina's main square, live Nada, a Croat, and her Serbian husband Zoran.

"There are lots of mixed families here and we have friends from all sides," said Zoran, a teacher who did not want to give his surname.

"We have been married for 38 years and never even discussed this subject. Our old friends are still friends. They are all moderate, ordinary people," he said.

"We speak the same language. We have the same God. All we do is pray in different ways. It is madness what is happening here."

Glina has one church of each denomination. Zoran blamed religion for the unrest and ethnic hatred, which he said had not come from the townspeople themselves, but from outside ex-

tremists on both sides.

Dusanka Naglic said her nephew and other poor people in the town were lured by money outsiders offered them to join Serbs who have taken up arms to block Croatian secession.

North of Glina, red, white and blue Croatian flags flutter in villages and farmhouses all the way to Zagreb.

To the south lies the self-proclaimed area of Krajina, dominated by members of the 600,000-strong Serbian minority. Croats say Serbia is planning to annex the area with the help of the army.

"Everyone has a gun here, we want the army to stay," said Zoran.

"There was firing and bombing for weeks until they came. Now it is calm, but I still cannot sleep at night. What has gone wrong with us?" said Milka Rovisan, his Croatian neighbour.

"I am too old to move. If I die I'll die at home."

Most other people have already left the rows of houses

lining the street. The Martini Cafe-Bar has closed down.

Dozens of people have been killed in ethnic clashes in the republic this year, two of them in Glina.

Stepan Naglic said he no longer dared venture the few hundred metres into town. But cyclists, cars and tractors bringing in the harvest occasionally passed the tanks, seeming hardly to notice them.

Yugoslavia's nearly nine million Serbs and 4.5 million Croats have rarely enjoyed good relations.

During World War I Serbia and Croatia fought against each other. In World War II, the Nazi invaders set up a fascist Croatian state which massacred Serbs and gypsies.

For 500 years, Serbia was part of the Ottoman Empire. Serbs who fled often settled in Krajina.

"Even when our relations were normal on the surface, there was always something there waiting to erupt again when extremists got the upper hand. Now they have," Zoran said.